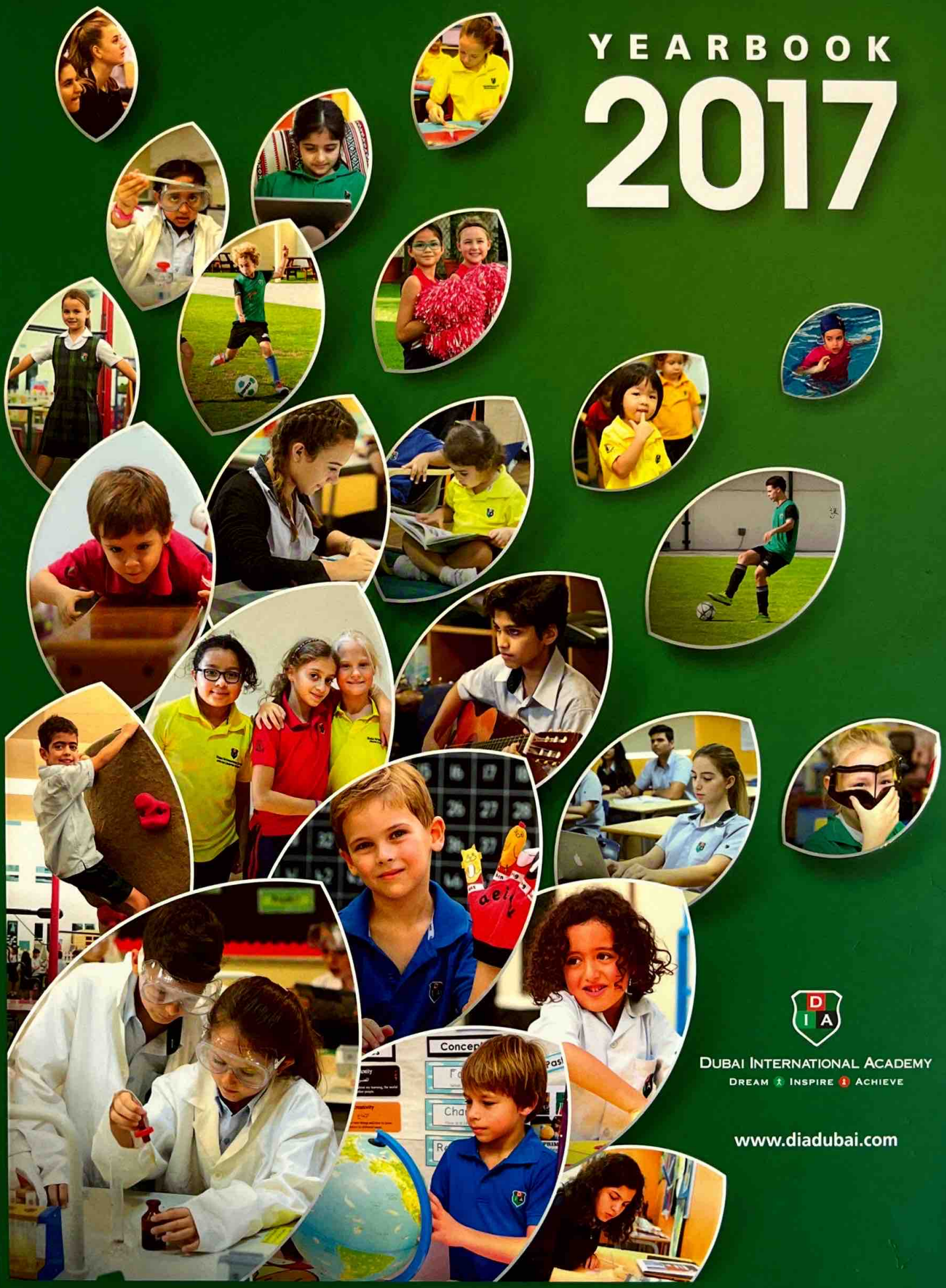
DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

innoventures education

YEARBOOK 2017



DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

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DIA
WOLVES

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It's a lot more than just Bake Sales!

PADIA consistently works towards engaging parents with the school

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- Meet other Parents & Teachers
- Volunteer your Time
- Have Fun
- Make a Difference!

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PADIA

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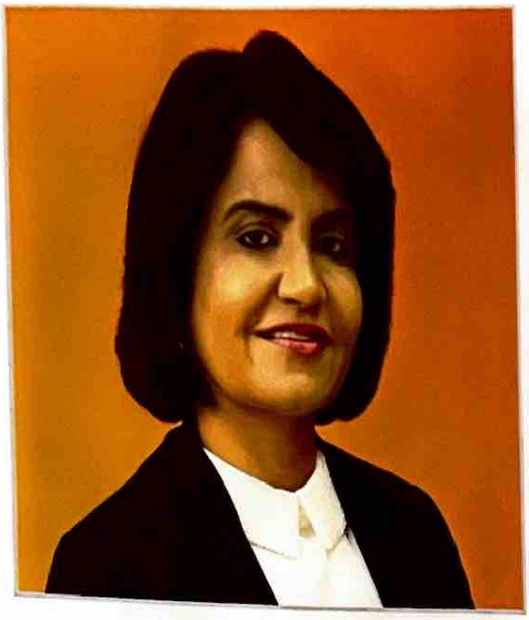
Message from the CEO



Another fantastic year for DIA! We take great pride in being the only outstanding IB continuum school in Dubai as recognised by the KHDA. This is testament to the dedication and drive that all associated with DIA have put in over the years. From the student, parent and staff perspective this acknowledgment is thoroughly deserved, and I want to thank all for the wonderful support, collaboration and great learning. At DIA we believe in teamwork where "Together Everyone Achieves More"!

In addition to this "Outstanding" evaluation and being re-accredited and re-authorised by the Council of International Schools, the International Baccalaureate and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, we have also gained accreditation to offer BTEC courses thus offering alternate career pathways to our students and enabling us to offer the IB Career-related Programme in future. The relentless focus on the best in teaching and learning by upholding the child at the centre of every decision we take, as well as our parent-centric approach, is what drives us to improve professionally. Just as it is for the students, being a DIA staff member is a learning experience and one that I feel humbled to be a part of. In the words of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, "In the race for excellence there is no finish line" and this is evident at DIA as we move forward towards continually raising the bar for students and teachers.

What a wonderfully successful year it has also been in all of our Innoventures Education Schools and Nurseries. No matter where we might be in our journey as learners and as an organisation, it never ceases to amaze me how one can always find ways to further improve. In a city of sparkling innovation, it is my pleasure to witness this in action in classrooms, corridors, fields and playgrounds, on a daily basis. Furthermore, DI@Tech, this year, provided a resourceful glimpse into the future, with drones sweeping above students' heads to record proceedings and prototype robots to clear the school afterwards.

This year we were privileged to host several illustrious visitors to the school. It was an honour to have a visit from the Nobel Peace laureate of 2014, Mr. Kailash Satyarthi, who won the nobel prize for working against child slavery. Mr. Pulin Sanghvi, Executive Director of Princeton University was our guest of honour at DIAMUN. Dr. Siva Kumari, the IB Director General, honoured us by being our Chief Guest at the 9th graduation ceremony of DIA, a hugely positive affirmation for our school!

As an organisation, we have continued to grow in numbers to over 7200 student learners supported by over 1100 members in our workforce. Our mission to empower students with a holistic, rigorous and international education resonates very clearly in the interactions between these learners, to ensure that every child is encouraged to grow academically and socially. This synergy is not only confirmed by the ever-improving examination and test scores, but is also very visible in the delightful events and activities that set our schools apart from many others - from sporting success and participation, to debating, film-production and Arabic Writing. Our children are creators, discoverers, inventors and ecologists. I can confidently say that each child is astonishingly skilled, talented, and unique in so many different ways. These learners are a credit to our schools and to their parents.

Our international-mindedness is not just restricted to our scholastic work in Dubai. The Gift of Innoventures Education (GIVE) initiative, set up as part of our 10-year anniversary commemoration, continues to go from strength to strength. With the funds raised from the flourishing activities that our students organise, GIVE is now in a position to establish four primary schools in the western region of Nepal. This initiative is with a view to extend the reach (and gift) of Innoventures Education to children from around the world who are unable to access quality education. GIVE serves to highlight not only the commitment of Innoventures Education to advocate international education, but also that of our students to supporting their peers from all over the globe who are less fortunate than themselves. It is a huge achievement and one that fills me with great happiness and humility.

Of course, the international element in DIA is always embraced in our Model United Nations, and this year's DIAMUN was another resounding success with over 1000 students of 89 nationalities from 50 international schools across 12 countries. The 9th hosting of DIAMUN once again demonstrates the strength of our student body. Completely managed and run by the students, the 2017 theme was "International Response to Global Conflict"; and the vigorous debates and thoughtful resolutions did much to raise the profile of youth engagement in finding solutions to international conflict. This annual event never fails to reassure me that our future is in safe hands!

As ever, I am looking forward to the next academic year 2017-2018 acclaiming further successes and celebrations of learning. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the families who entrust Innoventures Education schools and nurseries with the care of their most valuable asset - their children - and encourage everyone to take an even more active role next year as we aim to go beyond Outstanding!

Sincerely,

Poonam Bhojani
CEO Innoventures Education

Message from the Principal

Last year the UAE appointed a minister for Happiness to create "social good and satisfaction" and a minister for Tolerance to promote it as a "fundamental value in UAE society". Happiness and Tolerance are key attributes that are aspired to in any civilised society. To that end we should pause to reflect on how these are embedded within the ethos of our school.

As you walk around DIA you will come across small informal learning areas, with groups of students working with minimal supervision. These young learners consistently demonstrate the best of personal and social development through their outstanding behaviour inside and outside the classroom. Even among the youngest of groups, KG1 students are developing the confidence to work independently. Happiness and Tolerance are valued and promoted consistently in all interactions between students and adults. Throughout the school there is a sense of joy and positive energy.

The rigorous academic curriculum explores topics through a variety of global contexts which develops a deeper understanding through links with real life situations without geographical boundaries. This enables students to look beyond their own environment and empathise with the problems of people outside their own community.

Our inclusive classrooms ensure that each and every student is able to progress from their own starting point. There is a strong commitment to personalised learning through differentiation to cater for the learning needs of all students, including those with special educational needs and the gifted and talented.

Students' safety and security are high on our agenda. Students are monitored personally at the start and end of day by the senior management team who ensure that all indoor and outdoor learning areas are safe and exciting. The pastoral system promotes excellent relationships based on mutual respect. Bullying is extremely rare due to effective behaviour management protocols that are transparent and fair. New students are quickly integrated into the community through student initiatives such as friendship ambassadors and peer buddies. Regular assemblies reinforce the importance of being Caring, Open-minded, Principled and Reflective, which are all attributes of the IB Learner Profile.

Opportunities for student leadership are second to none. An effective Student Council, prefect system, a house system and a variety of student led initiatives such as Action Day, DIAMUN, Water for Life and Eco-Club abound. The 'Student Voice' influences learning and is central in the decision making process.

The holistic development of students in ensured through a strong co-curricular programme that includes a variety of sports and activities. Teamwork promotes collaboration and respect for one another. There is an emphasis on healthy living through wise nutritional choices in the cafeteria and with the recent introduction of a 'Vegetarian Day'.

It is a popular belief that giving to others increases one's own level of Happiness. Service education is at the core of the IB Curriculum and students routinely engage in action that provides support to those less fortunate than themselves. The IVEI GIVE Foundation in conjunction with Dubai Cares, has been raising funds across all our schools to build schools in Nepal for disadvantaged children. The Box Appeal, bake sales, charity concerts are other examples of how our students help those in need.

We have students from over 80 countries being taught by teachers of 27 different nationalities. As an inclusive, equal-opportunities campus, Tolerance is a way of life at DIA. Through intercultural interactions we recognize that that there are different ways of doing things and "other people, with their differences can also be right" (IB Mission Statement). While students are encouraged to be good representatives of their own culture and heritage, they are also made aware of the role and values of the host country and are knowledgeable and respectful of local heritage and norms. Festivals and celebrations of all cultures are observed and appreciated, laying the foundation for global citizenship.

Our mission is to enable children to acquire skills and competencies so that they can pursue their own passions and achieve their personal goals. Thus empowered, they will become happy and tolerant citizens of the world.

Pratibha Rao,
Principal

THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Poonam Bhojani
CEO Innoventures Education

Pratibha Rao
Principal

Tim Richardson
Head of Primary School

Jayne Needham
Head of Secondary School

Mihail Kouzev
Director of Sport
and Activities

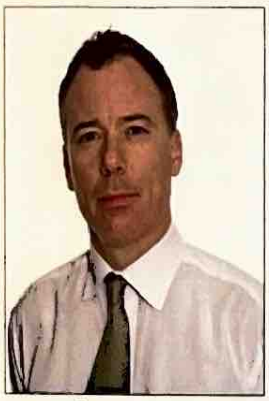
Candice Combrinck
Primary School Deputy Head
& PYP Coordinator

Donica Cuspard
Primary School Deputy Head

Manuella Watfa
Primary School
Dean of Students

Hitesh Bhagat
Deputy Head of Secondary
School - Learning Systems

Stephanie Duarte
Deputy Head of Secondary School -
Academic & MYP Coordinator



Robert Jennings
Deputy Head of Secondary
School - Pastoral

Pam Parasram
DP Coordinator

James Roberts
Director of Standards

Michael Stephen
Director, Finance &
Administration

Navneet Singh Katoch
Group Administration
Manager

Samira Sarafandi
Director of Arabic and
Islamic Studies

ADVISORY COUNCIL

1st row: Poonam Bhojani, Sushmeta Pancholia, Pratibha Rao.
2nd row: James Roberts, Alan Egbert, Toby Hoare.
3rd row: Tim Richardson, Dr. Jaap Mos, Dr. Herbert Pohl.
4th row: Dr. Lance De Masi, Avishesha Bhojani, Michael Stephen.

INNOVENTURES EDUCATION TEAM

Top row (from left)– **Sandeep Agarwal** – Group Accounts Manager, **Rony Thomas** – Group Procurement and Facilities Manager, **Arjun Ghosh** - Analyst, **Marie Therese de Villiers** – Group Human Resources Manager, **James Roberts** - Director of Standards, **Mihail Kouzev** – Director of Sports and activities

Center row (from left)–**Dina Mohammed Yehia** - Group Regulatory Compliance Manager, **David D'Souza** -Group Finance & Accounts Manager, **Prasadini Dekker** - PA to the CEO, **Uttam Yadav** - Manager – Technology Operations, **Hitesh Bhagat** - Head of Technology, **Navneet Singh Katoch** - Group Administration Manager

Bottom row (from left)– **Sheela Dey** - Group Admissions Manager, **Dr. Indira George** - Medical Superintendent, **Samira Sarafandi** – Director of Arabic and Islamic Studies, **Poonam Bhojani** - Chief Executive Officer, **Michael Stephan** - Director Finance and Administration, **Shraddha Chabria Lulla** - Marketing and Communications Specialist

INNOVENTS and GIVE

This year the IVEI and GIVE events calendar has been packed with fun, engaging and worthwhile events to promote student talent and support the GIVE initiative. Many competitive events have taken place across the Innoventures schools with DIA exceling in many, including First Place in the Academic Olympiad and Second in the Debate Competition and Science Fair. In the Innoventures Education Islamic and Arabic writing competitions 17 students from DIA competed against the other schools and took first and second places in Arabic B writing and Quran recitation. X-Factor was also a resounding success with many acts across the Innoventures schools confirming their talents in Music and Dance, sealing second place in the Music Category. Finally, DIA has exceedingly good success in the Arts completion gaining 15 awards across the high school, which was a vast majority of the awards available.

The Gift of Innoventures Education Foundation (GIVE) was launched in 2014 to mark the 10th anniversary of the founding of Innoventures Education. In the 2016/17 academic year students and staff have continued to embrace the philosophy of GIVING. The first initiative was early in the year with homerooms coordinating the Box Appeal with great success. Hundreds of boxes were filled to support the basic needs of the labour workers in Dubai. The Nepal trip in November was also a resounding success and the accomplishments of the students in creating a better life for those in need are commended. GIVE continues to drive the importance of education in areas of world that have limited access to it. In support of the Nepal trip the Primary School and Secondary school joined forces, once again, to raise over 10,000 AED for the development of schools in Nepal. Staff from all areas of the school engaged in an activity that was fun and worthwhile.

A Celebrity Star-ry Night at DIA

The Innoventures Education Film Festival took place on the 19th of April. It brought together the four Innoventures sister schools for a memorable and fun-filled red carpet and awards night at DIA. Students from various age groups, from young 10-year-olds to teenagers in their final years of high school, put together stellar cinematic content that made it beyond challenging for the IEFF judges to choose winners across the different award categories. From the festival's resident golden camel that graced the red carpet, to the trail-mix canapés and beverage bars, there was enough and more to entertain our glamorous guests. Seemingly overnight, our tiny little Exam Hall had been transformed into our very own Dolby Theatre.

INNOVENTS - X FACTOR

Students across the Innoventures Education schools have proven that they have what it takes to participate in the annual X-Factor Competition. The event was hosted by Dubai International Academy on the evening of February 22nd. From dancing to singing to playing musical instruments – the x-factor was indeed evident in all performances.

Special thanks to our judging panel – Lilly, Mick and Anna, who had the very difficult job of evaluating each performer and making the final decisions, where at times, performers were only a point or 2 apart. Our hosts, the very eloquent DIA students Brysen Hivon and Adam Hafez had the audience hooked and entertained between performances. A job very well done to all our students and here's to possibly seeing you in Hollywood in the near future.

DIA Peace Day Celebrations

On Tuesday 20th September 2016, students from Year 8 gathered to create awareness about peace. The symbol of peace was assembled in the quad to commemorate Peace Day. In Individuals and Societies classes, students had been working on the role of the UN in peacekeeping operations. This has links with many features of the MYP curriculum, and an understanding of the Global Context of Fairness and Development was developed in these lessons.

DIA - GIVE Walkathon

On 18 January 2017, over 150 students, staff, parents and well wishers participated in the annual GIVE Walkathon hosted by DIA. While this was completely optional and voluntary, the turnout was incredibly impressive. From sponsors to bracelet sales, over 10,000 AED was raised which was donated to GIVE to build a fourth school in Nepal!

Academic Olympiad

On 29 January 2017, RWA hosted the Academic Olympiad to test students from Year 7 to Year 11 in the fields of English, Arabic Spelling and Mathematics.

It was an exciting event with 24 students competing from all four schools. DIA won the event.

Cross Country Tournament

On 29 January 2017, DIA hosted the annual Cross Country Tournament with nearly 300 students participating from all four schools in the age categories of U8 - U18.

DIA came first with 33 points, closely followed by RWA with 30 points.

One of the most exciting Innovents, the Cross Country Tournament featured a number of running greats from across our schools!

DIA host second International Swimming Competition

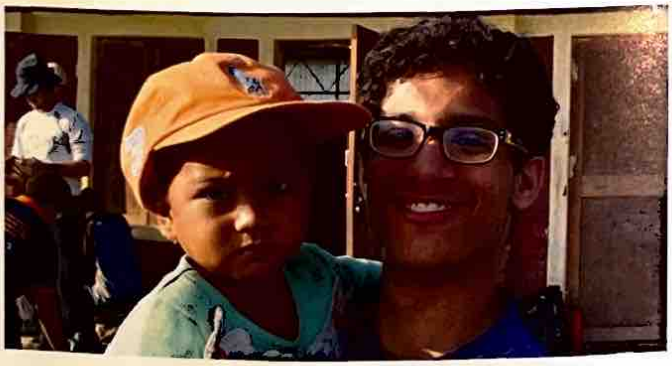
On 15 October 2016, the second International Swimming Competition was held at the Hamdan Swimming Complex. 368 students from 10 schools participated. DIA was placed second.

INNOVENTS and GIVE

give
GIFT OF INNOVENTURES EDUCATION

Giving to Nepal

From 1-8 November 2016, 11 students and 3 teachers travelled to Nepal to begin construction on the first of three primary schools which GIVE has sponsored. Over AED 450,000 has been contributed towards the construction of 3 schools in western Nepal in collaboration with Dubai Cares. All schools contributed half of this and the Innoventures Education Board of Directors contributed the same amount.



Nepal Trip

IB Director General Visits DIA

Nobel Prize Winner Visits DIA

MESSAGE FROM THE
HEAD OF PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear DIA Family,

Thank you all for your support this year. Although we did think that the successes of 2015-16 would be hard to top, this year has seen even more development in Primary and I am delighted to be able to reflect once again on an exceptional year as we draw it to a close.

The recognition afforded us by our colleagues in schools across Dubai has been particularly pleasing this year. Not only have we been visited by several PYP teams to share our Year 6 Exhibition, our SEN Department has accommodated visitor requests from KHDA, we have had our KG outdoor learning area visited by a fellow PYP school and our whole Primary has been sharing best practice with Emirates English Speaking School, our KHDA Abundance Group partner school.

This year, we have been focusing on curriculum enrichment for our most motivated students. Technology has remained an important part of this programme for 2017. This year, we took part in the Junior First Lego League with a group of Year 4 and 5 students competing with fellow students from across Dubai in a project involving collaboration, planning, construction, programming and presentations. For the first time, enrichment sports activities at lunchtime have been provided by our teaching partners at Turning Pointe Dance, Impac Basketball and Tennis. In all, more than 100 children have taken part in enrichment activities from Ken Ken to Hackathon Challenge providing hundreds of hours of additional challenge and engagement.

In addition to curriculum enrichment close to home, we have had Year 5 and 6 overseas trips to Switzerland skiing and Borneo for environmental science and adventure. The 25 children and their accompanying teachers who braved the jungles of Borneo were particular 'Risk Takers' for choosing to be the first of what we hope will be many DIA Primary groups to experience this magical island first hand.

Visitors to our corridors and classrooms will no doubt have been impressed by the art work on display this year. With a nod towards numerous cities around the world (including Belfast, September to November 2016) that have moved art work out of museums and galleries and into the public domain, we have made a very conscious decision to make our school our gallery and the results have been amazing. Congratulations to everyone who has had their work on display and to our Art Team who have enriched our lives with their pieces!

The Primary School Council has continued to go from strength to strength. Social and Eco initiatives this year have enriched our school experience. Special mention must go to our Primary Parking Monitors who, following a great suggestion from a concerned parent, designed their own 'parking tickets' and then politely identified cars incorrectly parked and congratulated members of our school community who had parked correctly. Well done PSC!

Thank you, as ever, to our PADIA core group of volunteers and to every parent who has supported activities, field trips and events at DIA this year. A special thanks to Ms. Manal as well, for managing the 'Innovents' initiatives this year. In particular, it is fantastic to see the 'new' school in Loharpur, Nepal is now complete and the children from this village and surrounding area have a safe building in which to learn thanks to the efforts of DIA students and the 'GIVE' Foundation.

Finally, thank you again to the whole DIA community for making this such a great year. To those of you who are moving on to new challenges, best wishes and I hope you are taking happy memories with you. To everyone returning for the coming academic year, have a restful summer and we will be here to welcome you back on 5th September.

Tim Richardson
Head of Primary

MESSAGE FROM THE **PRIMARY DEPUTY HEAD**

LIFE WOULD BE PERFECT IF WE HAD THESE

REWIND

What a year 2016 – 2017 has been. DIA jumped huge steps to ensure that we took our past reflections into consideration when planning for the new academic year. Tweaking our Programme of Inquiry to allow better understanding of Concepts and to add more rigour to our content, was a mission we took seriously. Glad to report that with our recent IBT, TIMMS/PISA and Internal data, our changes had a positive impact on our teaching and learning.

PAUSE

Now that all classes in Year 4 to 6 are iPad classes, we took some time to see what would work best – how could we ensure that we use this new platform of learning to its best potential? That it wouldn't be a replacement of a book, but rather to enhance learning. Portfolios was another area we needed to reflect on to see how best we can showcase work which is relevant to student learning and progress and what else could we do to meet the Year of Reading challenge as set by the Sheikh.

PLAY

It has been a year where all have had an opportunity to reach their potential, where staff and students collaborated to create an atmosphere in DIA which was conducive to OUTSTANDING learning for all. It is always great to see how the DIA community takes on the RISK TAKER IB Learner Profile and is willing to try new things. Change is always tricky for most people to accept, but at DIA we encourage it as we know it builds character and allows us to be pioneers in the field of EDUCATION.

STOP

To quote the rapper Vanilla Ice: "Stop, Collaborate and Listen, Ice is back got a brand new invention". Yes, DIA had a few new 'inventions' this year – new units of inquiry, new approaches to teaching and learning, new assessment techniques, new approach to the PYP exhibition project, etc.

FORWARD

What's next? We can be sure to share that we will NEVER STOP improving when it comes to ensuring that your child gets the best when it comes to the delivery of our curriculum AND the curriculum itself. Knowing that our staff are passionate about their profession is comforting as they will always strive to improve. Our students are just as passionate about learning - with this combination, one can only but expect success!

Kind regards,
Candice Combrinck

MESSAGE FROM THE
EARLY YEARS DEPUTY HEAD

Each year I am reminded of the fact that the years children spend in school are probably the best years of their lives. During the years children are in school, they are happy, willing to explore and are Risk-Takers. A positive school experience sets the foundation for success in life. Sadly, we have come to the end of another school year here at Dubai International Academy (DIA) and I hope you have noticed we have continued to provide a positive environment and good foundation for our students. It has been a wonderful and productive year as DIA continues to provide an outstanding and quality learning experiences to our students.

Each year I am amazed at how much our students grow, develop, and learn. This would be impossible without the help of the faculty, staff and the parent community. I realize it takes a lot of hard work and dedication to be successful and I would like to take this opportunity to say "thank you." I truly appreciate your efforts. It has been a pleasure to serve the community of students, parents, faculty and staff.

To those returning next year...I hope you have a great summer and see you next year.

To those who will be moving on to your next adventure...Good luck on your future endeavors.

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."
Ralph Waldo Emerson

Best Wishes,
Donica Cuspard

MESSAGE FROM THE
PRIMARY DEAN OF STUDENTS

"A community is not merely a collection of individual persons; it is a set of relationships, including the attitudes and behavior of its members" (Bartle, 2007).

It is truly an honor to be a part of the Dubai International Academy community where we have wonderful students, teachers, and parents. As the Dean of Student for the Primary School I have been repeatedly proud of our students who come to school to learn, grow and create. I have been impressed with our dedicated teachers who mentor our students and facilitate their academic and social success. I have been thankful to our parents who support us at home and instill strong values of respect and solidarity in their children. I see DIA to have ongoing power and magnificent potential, DIA is a flourishing epicenter for student and community life.

As I complete my second year as Dean of Student in Primary school and my 11th year at DIA, I have a renewed commitment to student life. Educational research confirms that students develop holistically, both in the classroom and outside the classroom, so welfare and care are primary. It is important for students to recognise their own potential and to build acceptance, trust, esteem and friendship amongst their peers. All students at DIA have the opportunity to value themselves and to experience wellbeing in order to be fulfilled academically and socially.

In the year of 'Happiness and Positivity' whereby happiness has become a lifestyle in Dubai; our target at DIA is to create an atmosphere that is conducive to the happiness of students, teachers and parents by promoting positive core values in line with our learner profiles and attitudes. DIA has explored initiatives through this whole academic year in reflection of happiness, respect and tolerance. We consistently improve our school community to be more caring and empathetic and seek the support of our counselor Ms. Malin and our SENCO Ms. Rachael who assist in implementing this effectively.

I would like to end by thanking you again for your support and wishing you a restful summer break.

Manuela Watfa
Primary school Dean of Students

ADMINISTRATION STAFF

Marie de. Villiers
HR Manager

Dr. Indira George
Medical Superintendent

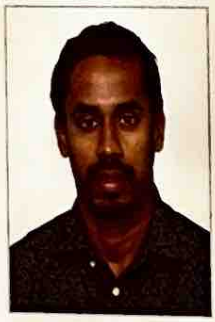
Srinivas Lella
Deputy Manager-Accounts

Prasadini Dekker
School Secretary & PA to CEO

Elton Kinny
Senior Administration Coordinator

Darpan Aheer
Administration Coordinator

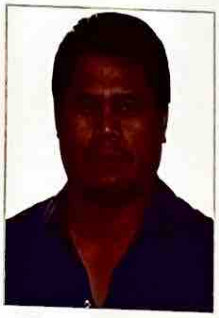
FM Jacob
Administration Assistant



Tharanga Prasath
Administration Assistant

Manvi Govil
Special projects Coordinator

Arjun Ghosh
Special Projects Analyst



Edward A. Belen
Administration Assistant

Fawad Abbasi
Accountant

Sandra Fernandes
Accountant

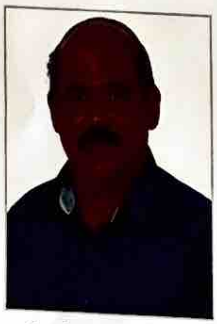
Jennifer
Cashier

Raffy William F. Santos
Administration Assistant

Abdul Aziz
PRO

Radhakrishna Gopala
Driver

Baiju
Driver



Andrew Mathias
Driver

Mahesh
IT Technician

ADMINISTRATION STAFF

Camille Fournel
Administrative Coordinator

Yonel de Beer
Administrative Coordinator

Marian Steyn
Administrative Coordinator

Maryke Vieira
Administrative Coordinator

Gegelyn Granil
Administration Assistant

Dina Mohammed Yehia
Regulatory Compliance Manager

Claudia Helmerichs
Admissions

Ine Mari Bredekamp
Front Office Coordinator

Erika Brand
Front Office Coordinator

Nidhi Dahiya
HR Officer

Nisha Naidoo
HR Assistant

Ece Aksu
HR Executive

Shraddha Chabria Lulla
Marketing and Communications Specialist

Suja Vijayalakshmi
Nurse

Suchitra D'sa
Nurse

Prajusha Perinjilamalayil
Nurse

Grace Swing
Lab Technician

Julieta Barcena
Lab Technician

Lelanie Fernandez
Lab Technician

Charisse Nitro
Lab Technician

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Dinalysa Perez
Resources Coordinator & Library Technician

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Library Assistant

Efren Imperio
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Nada Iskander
KG1 A

Anel Weideman
KG1 B

Holly Seehafer
KG1 C

Nadia Dippenaar
KG1 D

Rola Chami
KG 1 E

Stephanie Martin
KG 1 F

Louise Mehta
KG2 A

Amorie Botha
KG2 B

Barbara Godenzie
KG2 C

Heidi Pereira
KG2 D

Adele Fawthrop
KG2 E

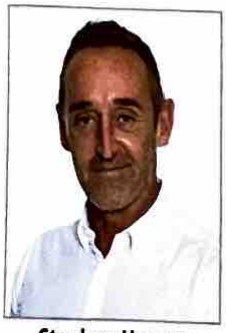
Kay Stothard
KG2 F

Kopal Bansal
Year 1 A

Andrea Leah Waller
Year 1 B

Jillian Gehrmann
Year 1 C

Niamh Smith
Year 1 D



Stephen Hurren
Year 1 E

Jenna Janz
Year 1 F

Manal Qawasmeh
Year 2 A

Donna O'Sullivan
Year 2 B

PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Julia Watt
Year 2 C

Shaheena Hasan
Year 2 D

Leah Walsh
Year 2 E

Mitchell Horne
Year 2 F

Laura Evans
Year 3 A

Lisa Ellemor
Year 3 B

James Brunton
Year 3 C

Rebecca McDiarmid
Year 3 D

Lirene Burger
Year 3 E

Sara Ann McDermott
Year 3 F

Sally Saaid
Year 4 A

Anita Das
Year 4 B

Heidi Buck
Year 4 C

Lewis Miller
Year 4 D

Melissa Arnold
Year 4 E

Natika Lewis
Year 4 F

Samantha Yousef
Year 5 A

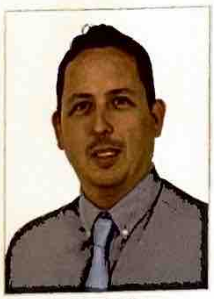
Masuma Ashikali
Year 5 B

Philip Lydon
Year 5 C

PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

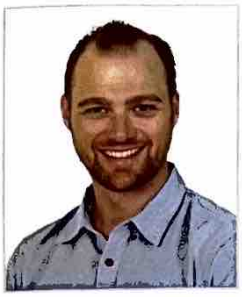
Louise Queen
Year 5 D

Nicola Overy
Year 5 E



Lee Falk
Year 6 A

Colm Cormican
Year 6 B



David Allen
Year 6 C

Doireann Greaney
Year 6 D

Heather Loewel
Year 6 E

Heidi Collyer
Head of Arts

Maria Teresa Ancheta
Music

Cliodhna Tuite
Music

Anupama Ramachandran
Art

Kiran Lakhiani
Art

Robert Turner
Head of PE

Blaine Gallant
PE

Jeron Canlas
PE

Maria Elena Torcelino
PE

Ann-Alicia Free
PE

Cherise Henn
PE

PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Jean Christophe
Head of MFL

Milena Isacchi
French

Irene Merida Calvo
Spanish

Kajsa Dokakis
Swedish

Eva Trass
German

Naja Dajani
German

Ramona Bretschneider
German

Deepika Bahl
Hindi

Candice Moes Dutch
Dutch

Wies Selman Dutch
Dutch

Minna Kallio-Alanen
Finnish

Anne Chabert Dehl
Danish

Lucia Sacchi
Italian

Lucia Pasqualotto
Italian

Jacqueline Dahlstrom
ESL

Rachael Horne
SENCO

Nida Al-Madani
Learning Support

Shruti Rana
IT

PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Emtesal Abdou
Arabic A
Head of Arabic

Asma Al Mohammed
Arabic A

Fatmeh Amro
Islamic A & Arabic B
Head of Islamic

Eman Jamal
Arabic B
Coordinator

Ahmad Saad
Arabic / Islamic B

Gheith Hussain
Arabic B

Faten Ahmed
Arabic B

Omaima
Arabic

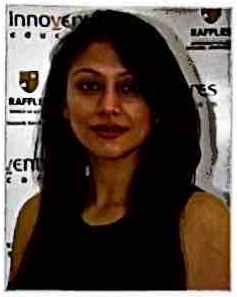
Rana Othman
KG Arabic

Reham Ahmed
Arabic B

Heba Ragaei
Arabic Support

PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Anri Labuschange
KG 1A



Shama Dadarkar
KG 1B

Amna Ahsan
KG 1C

Valli Ganesh
KG 1D

Kinjol Shah
KG 1E

Chrisinda Crous
KG 1F

Harshani Weerasingha
KG 2A

Marife Manalili
KG 2B

Monica Nanda
KG 2C

Andrea Kasem
KG 1 2D

Sai Talwalkar
KG 2E

Jenny Henningsson
KG 2F

Claire White
Year 1A

Janna Wilford
Year 1B

Julie Anne Atienza
Year 1C

Faryal Osman
Year 1D

Julia Roman
Year 1E

Shirley Lai
Year 1F

Suzanna Misso
Year 2A

Elisa Cairoli
Year 2B

PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Airish Enard
Year 2C

Mala Joseph
Year 2D

Dhanya Deepesh
Year 2E

Pallavi Kulkarni
Year 2F

Gihan Faisal
Arabic

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ESL

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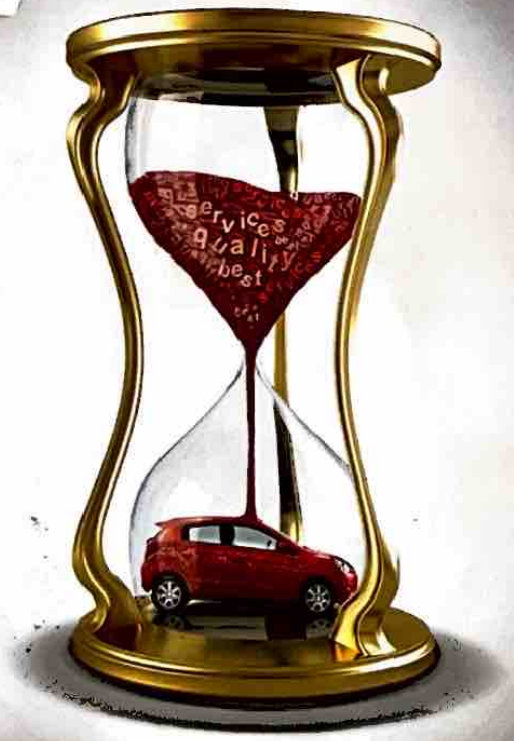

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Year 6

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KG1 B

Cherilyn Macadangdang
KG1 C

Elizabeth Sible
KG 2 C

Emma Malacas
Year 3

Ermina Vergara
Year 5

Evelyn Alcantara
KG1 F

Geraldine Recinto
KG 2 A

Hadna Alih
KG 1 D

Jovelyn Manojo
KG1 A

Joylyn Sombria
KG1 E

Judy Malaluan
KG 2D

Lian Grace Martinez
KG 2 B

Maricel Mahidlawon
Art

Mary Anne

Nerisa Inaudito

Rachelle Centino
KG 2 F

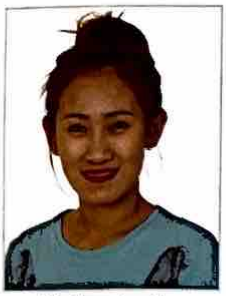
Rhodora Llaneta
KG2 E

PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHING AIDES

Roscel Moreno
Reprographics

Shirley Aborot
Year 4 SS

Teresita Angngiw



Vivian Angiw
Art

Sharon Official
Reprographics

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PADIA

PADIA Fund raising events:
Every year a few dedicated parents get together and form a group that works tirelessly and voluntarily to bring some entertainment and fun to all the children at DIA. These parents are passionate about being involved with DIA and hence they are called PADIA. The school management does not have to spend any extra funds to run these events, because the PADIA team organizes activities to raise funds. Some of these are outlined below.

Bake Sale PADIA organized two Bake Sales this year. Many parents contributed baked goods to these events and most parents helped by giving their children some money to buy these treats. Kids look forward to every Bake Sale, because they get to taste home made delicacies and it provides a break from the cafeteria food.

Winter Souk PADIA raises funds from the Winter Souk by

renting stalls to vendors who come and display their products

to the entire DIA community. We also sell Raffle tickets and entice the kids with latest gadgets as prizes. Winter Souk is a great time to meet & patronize the small entrepreneurs of the community and encourage

Wild Wadi Night This is a fun event for the entire school community. Wild Wadi opens its door every

year exclusively for DIA stu dents and their friends & families after sunset for 100 AED only.

Second Hand Uniform Shop PADIA runs the second hand uniform shop every Thursdays after drop-off till 9 am, selling uniforms for Aed 20 per piece.

Secondary School Book Sale Towards the end of the school year, PADIA arranges a used school book sale. Parents may donate used books to PADIA any time

during the year or sell the books themselves by renting a table on the day of the sale.

Chair Bags PADIA stocks chair bags for the younger students. Th ey can be purchased at the PADIA room.
Wild Wadi Night This is a fun event for the entire school

community. Wild Wadi opens its door every year exclusively for DIA stu dents and their friends & families after sunset for 100 AED only.

PADIA sponsored events & gifts:
All the funds raised by PADIA are used through out the year to organize events and offer end of year souvenirs to year groups graduating from KG, PS, MYP and DP. Some of the events where PADIA spends its funds are detailed below.

PADIA sponsor the KG Tabards ,Year 6 Year books, Year 11 T -Shirts, Year 13 Sashes and more.

PADIA

From left to right: Carole, Nadia, Maaren(VP), Brigitte, Wafa, Carol, Sana, JJ, Sarika, Paul (Pres), Alejandra, Jeannie (Sec), Heejo, Sangita, Asma. Absent: Joska, Reneuka (Tres), Farzeen, Patty.

Movie Night PADIA organizes a movie night, especially for Primary School child ren and their friends and families, though S econdary students are always

welcome. PADIA provide freshly popped popcorn to the students at no cost and variety of juice packs are also distributed .

Gelato Day All our students are bein g treated to a refreshing ice lollie o n a hot day in April. Gelato can bring a smile any time of the year, more so if its free!! Mini Olympics PADIA organizes bouncy castles for our Mini Olympians in

KG to have a ball on their sports day.

Santa'S Grotto Every year room no. PS 40 gets transformed into a winter wonderland with a warm fire place. A pla ce where Santa lives. All our pr imary children visit Santa in his Grotto and get a pleasant surprise when Santa gives them cute gift to take home.

Mini Olympics PADIA organizes bouncy castles for our Mini Olympians in KG to have a ball on their sports day .

International Evening This mega event o f the year is

managed and org anized by the PADIA team and individual country coordinators with the help & su pport of parents of each country. It is a perfect opportunity to share and showcase the various cultures that make the DIA environment truly international.

KG ARABIC

KG students enjoyed learning Arabic through a variety of fun games and activities that cope with their units of inquiry:

KG1 learnt about the life cycle of butterflies in Arabic, it's amazing how they can recall the butterfly cycle in both English and Arabic, well done KG1.

Also, they learnt the name and shape of the circle by drawing circles on the sand, and playing the game of circles, what a fun to learn shapes in Arabic!

Happy, sad, this is how they drew the correct feeling expression when Ms Rana said the adjective in Arabic.

During Arabic story time.students listened, shared our thoughts and answered Ms Rana's questions in simple Arabic words.

Clever KG students classified boys and girls' toys and clothes in Arabic perfectly.

let's feed the shark with different colorful fish, learning colours in Arabic through feed the shark activity.

Learning about the animals names in Arabic through the magical screen activity.

They were engaged in learning numbers in Arabic through performing the 5 monkeys song.

Finding animals under the giant cover.

KG students were busy finding da'eera, muthallath, Muraba'a and the rest of shapes through this fun game with our Arabic teacher.

Learning the words small, medium, big in Arabic through the goldilocks and the 3 bears activity made it easy for our little learners to remember those new adjectives.

KG1 were introduced to the colours in Arabic.

Our KG2 clever genie made .....Judy's wish to visit the 7 emirates of UAE come true, we enjoyed our KG2 class amazing performance during the UAE national day celebration.

KG ARABIC

PS ARABIC

Year 1 students were risk takers in spelling and writing new Arabic words on their own, they can work in groups and do peer assessment with confidence.

During the book week, Year 2 students chose to read some Arabic story books related to the costumes they came to school with. We enjoyed listening to your lovely stories, Year 2.

Ruby and Gamool were Years 1 and 2 Arabic A best friends, students took them home by turn, took photos, wrote the activities they did together and brought them to the class to read their amazing stories out loud to their classmates.

Year 3 chose their groups to work with on their unit project related to the lesson "My morals and values", they were skillful in googling evidences and linking to Islamic subject to support their chosen values. The project showed their great team work ethics. So proud of our young inquirers

Year 3 students have been inquiring about "Akhawat Anna" and "Akhawat Kana", their names, numbers, and the change they make to the nominal sentence. They were split into 2 groups, competing to search and find out the facts and examples of "Akhawat Anna" and "Akhawat Kana". Well done to both teams.

Year 4 stars of Arabic reading received awards for their hardwork in reading and summarizing the stories they read. Bravo to our stars of reading.

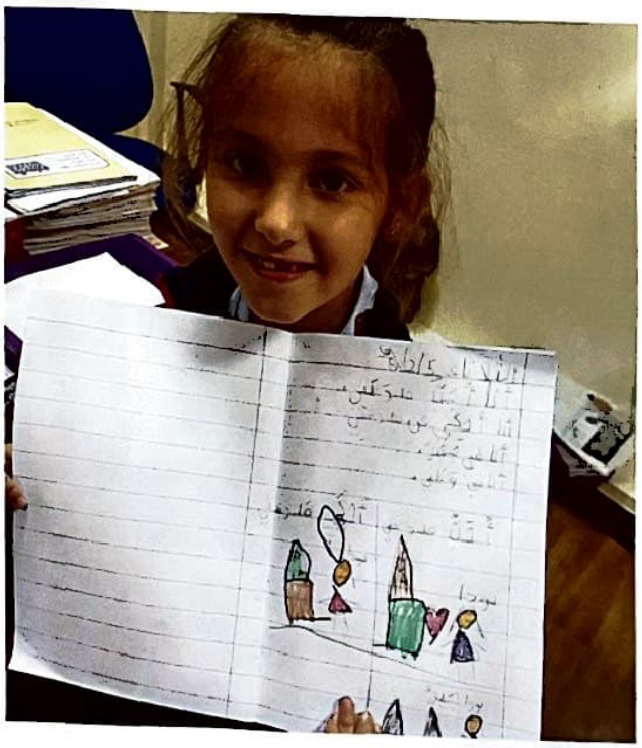
Year 4 young thinkers worked actively in groups using multiple platforms to answer the book questions during their unit 4 study.

DIA Arabic A and B students participated eagerly in the Arabic reading challenge, Ms. Omaima was pleased to receive their reading passports filled with interesting details about the books they read.

Years 5 & 6 Students shared their rich information about the UAE history, culture and traditions in a beautiful performance during the UAE national day.

DIA Arabic A & B parents engaged positively in our school events and celebrations related to Arabic and Islamic culture.

PS ARABIC



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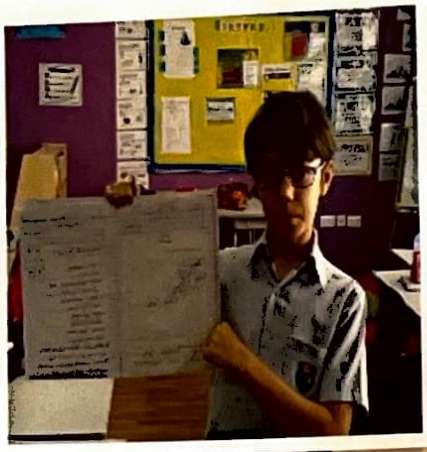
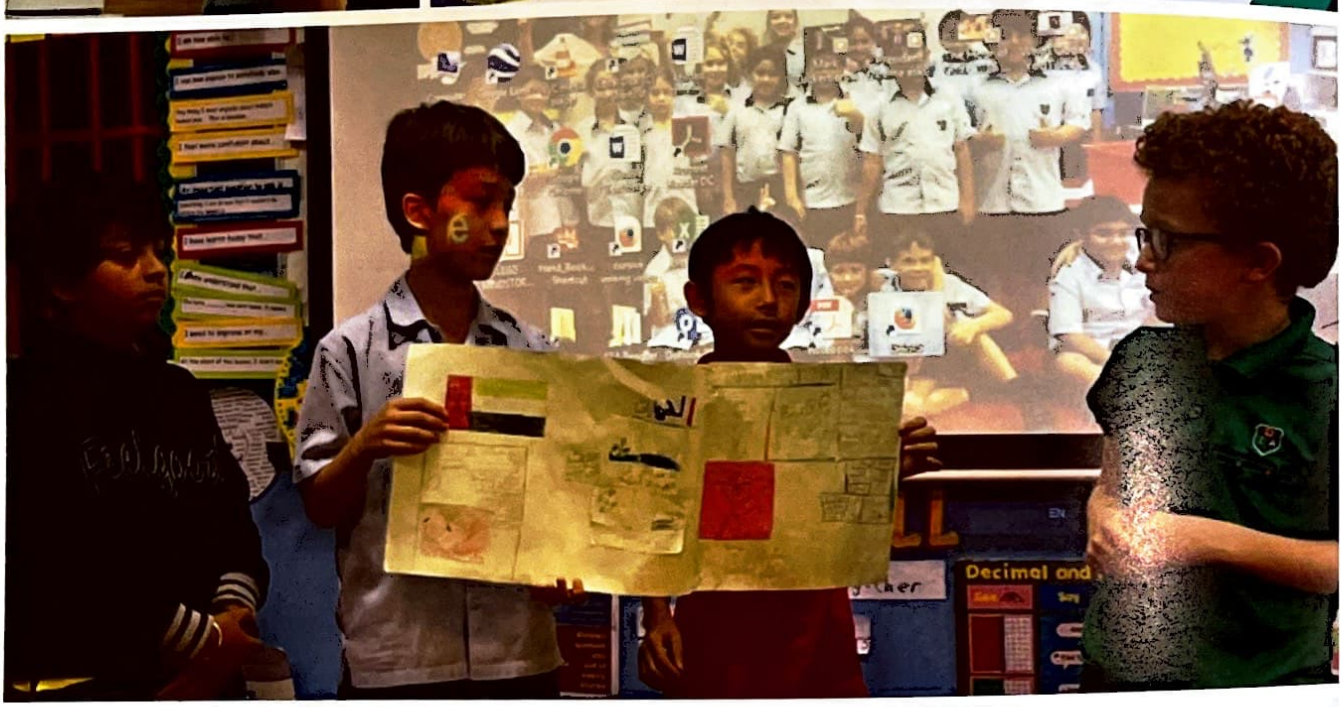
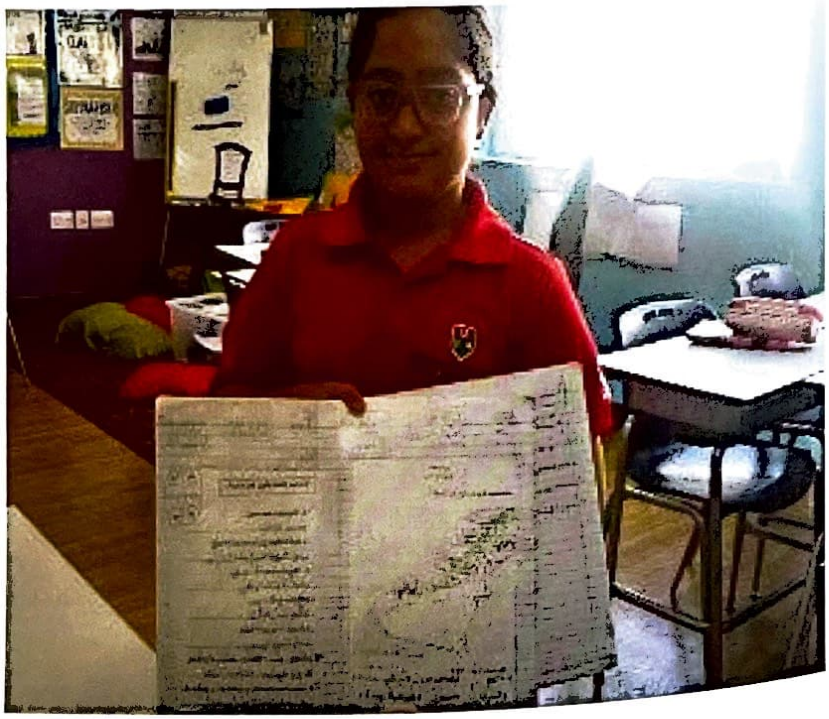
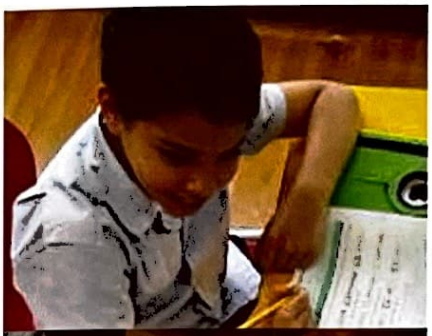
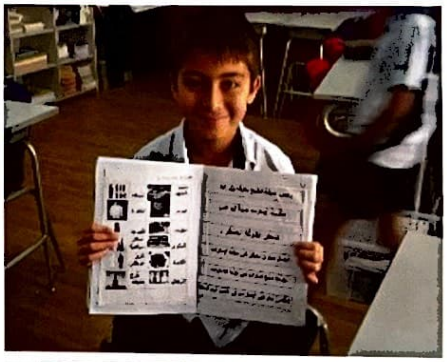


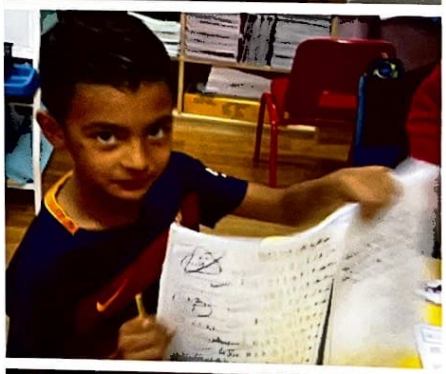


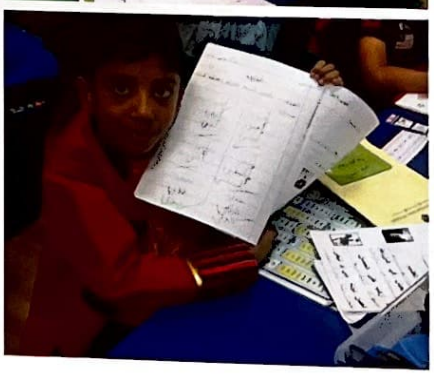


PS ARABIC









PS ISLAMIC

Our young learners were introduced to the five pillars of Islam, Hajj is the fifth pillar. In addition, they studied and memoried Surat-Alfil that illustrated the fate of those who tried to attack the Ka'aba before the birth of prophet Muhammed peace be upon him. They presented their projects to the class that reflect their learning of the Surah, followed by questions from their audience.

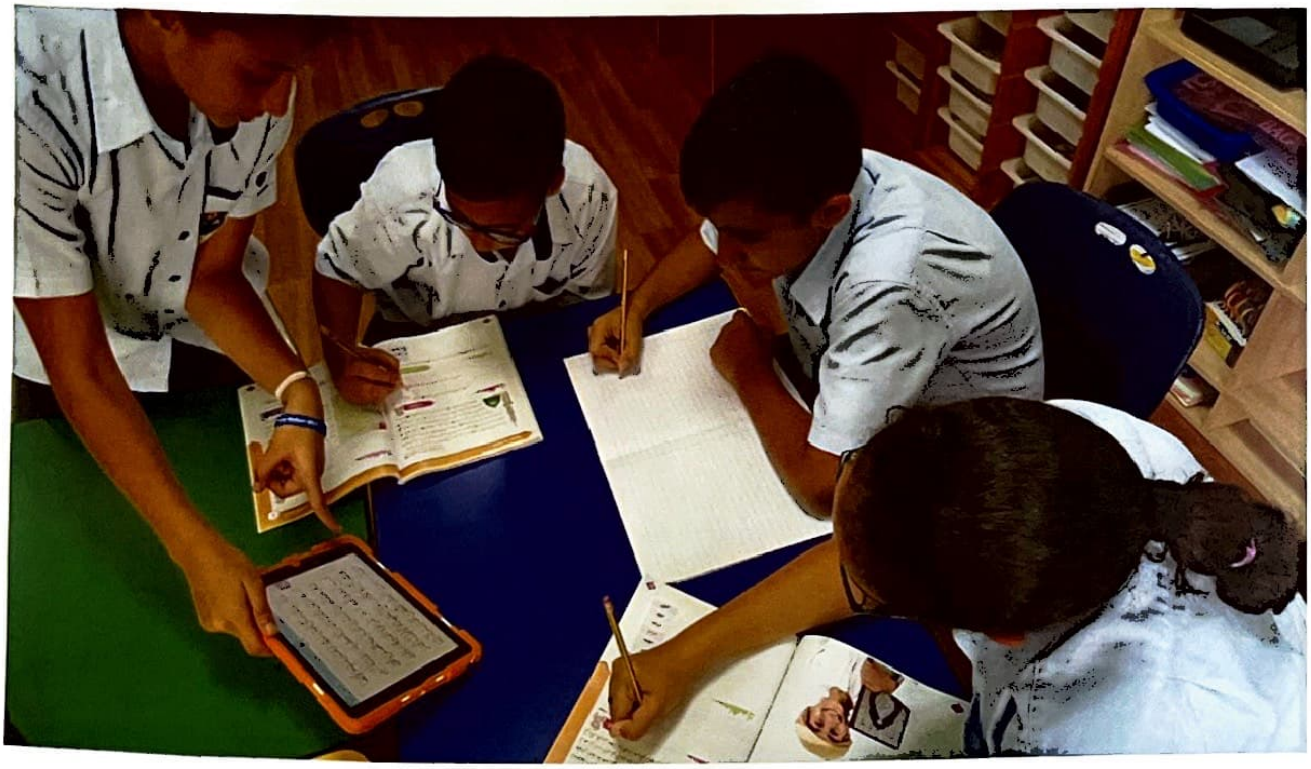
Students repeated Surat Al-fil after their young teacher, who shared his perfect tajweed with the class.

As the Prophet Ibrahim was quoted in the Quran saying, "My Lord, make this a secure city and provide its people with fruits". Our aspiring Muslims linked their Islamic lessons with loving their home country and host country UAE through the flag drawing activity.

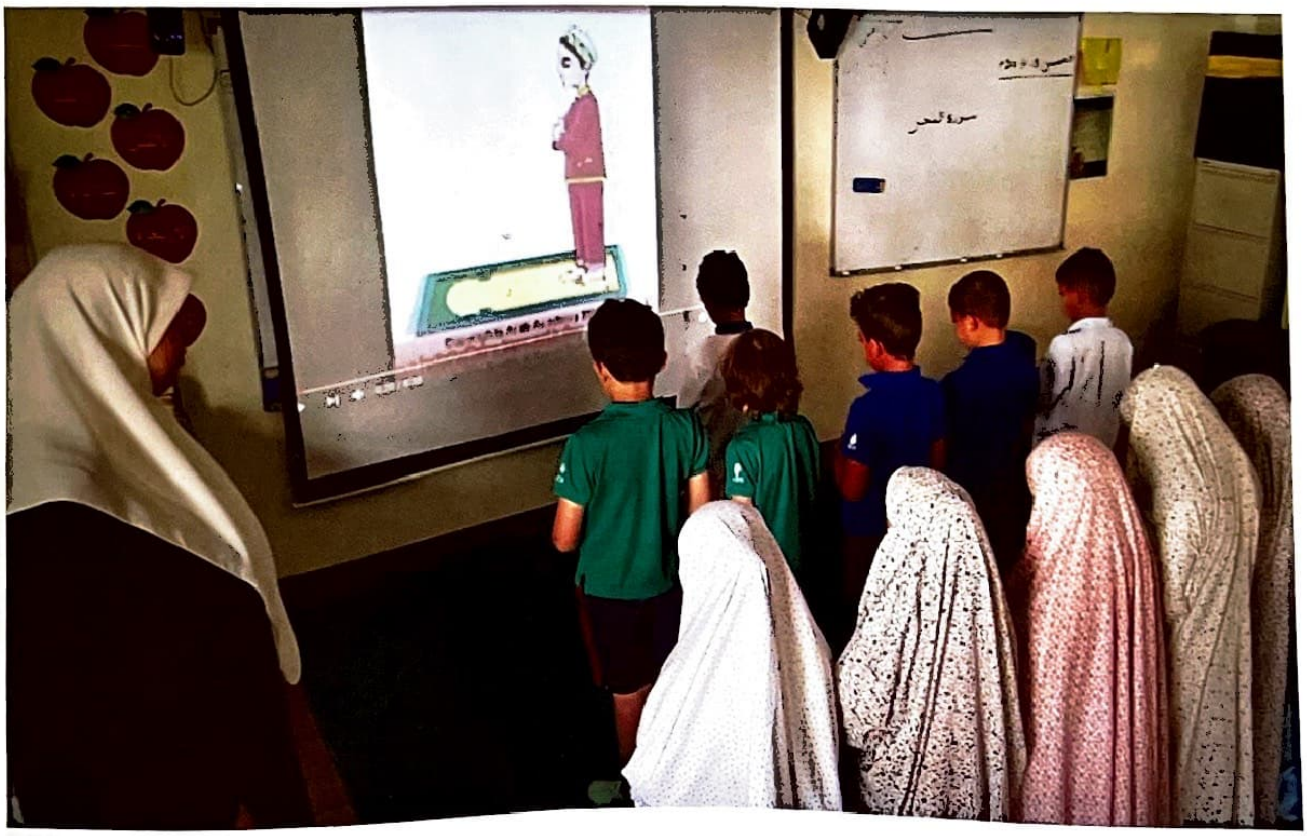
We learnt from prophet Muhammed (pbuh) that the reward of praying in congregation is 27 times greater than prayer individually. Students practiced Salat Aljamaa led by their classmate, the young Imam.

Islamic Education students searched trustful websites to include Quran, Hadith evidences and examples from the "Seerah Nabawia" to support their writings. They were engaged in peer learning, reciting and memorising of Holy Quran vessel.

Throughout the year we made connections between our learning in school and our everyday lives. We learned about the importance of wudu and the traditions of prayer, the attributes of a good person and the importance of respecting the world around us including our families and friends, nature and our environment and out teachers and elders.



PS ISLAMIC

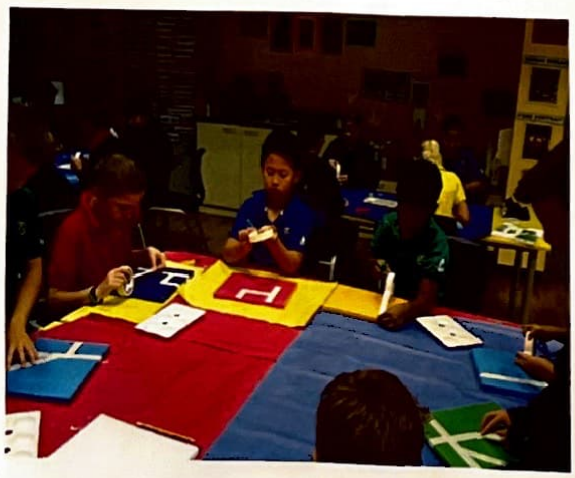


PS ART

Art is valuable because it allows children to process their world, is a source of beauty and expression, as well as the process of creating. This Year in art was full of fun and learning, with activities that kept the students thoroughly engaged. They were introduced to the works of different artists like Piet Mondrian, Vincent Van Gogh, Georgia O' Keeffe and Laurel Burch to name a few. Creating patterns, mixing paints, applying various techniques to create pictures and demonstrating the ability to use the principles and elements of art effectively, were all a learning process throughout the lessons. Students cooperated with one another as they worked in groups and appreciated the work of their peer and their own. They used art materials with responsibility and care, gained knowledge of related topics through research and shared their views and opinions of art in class.

We believe in the power of integrating art lessons with concepts from the classroom. This is highly beneficial for those students who are visual-spatial and bodily-kinesthetic learners. It also helps students to bring knowledge they have gathered in art to demonstrate understanding or solidify abstract concepts from the classroom into practical use.

Ms. Anu, Ms. Kiran



PS ART

PS MUSIC

The arts enrich our understanding of the world and also help students learn the dispositions for a successful and fulfilled life: being part of a team; collaboration; shared responsibility; focus and the importance of disciplined rehearsal and performance. In KG the children enjoy the experience of music through action songs, dancing, and playing a variety of instruments. In Year 1s the children enjoyed playing on a variety of percussion instruments and read and write their own rhythms. In Year 2 and 3 the recorder program helps develop fine-motor coordination as well as cooperation when playing in a group. The Year 4s enjoy playing on the keyboard and learning to read music notes, Year 5 are introduced to the ukulele so find out from experience what playing a string instrument is like. Year 6s research film music, create compositions in different styles, as well play keyboard and guitar. All of Primary participate in an annual winter concert, which develops confidence and performance skills. Children from Year 3-6 have the opportunity to participate in the annual Instrumental Recital afternoon, as well as the annual musicals. Year 4-6 can audition to part of The DIAtones who perform in the school community and well as events around Dubai. We all look forward to another exciting, musical year at DIA!

Ms. Heidi Collyer (Primary Arts Coordinator, Year 1, 3 & 5)

Ms. Cliodhna Tuite (Year 2, 4 & 6)

Ms. Teresa Ancheta (KG 1 & 2)

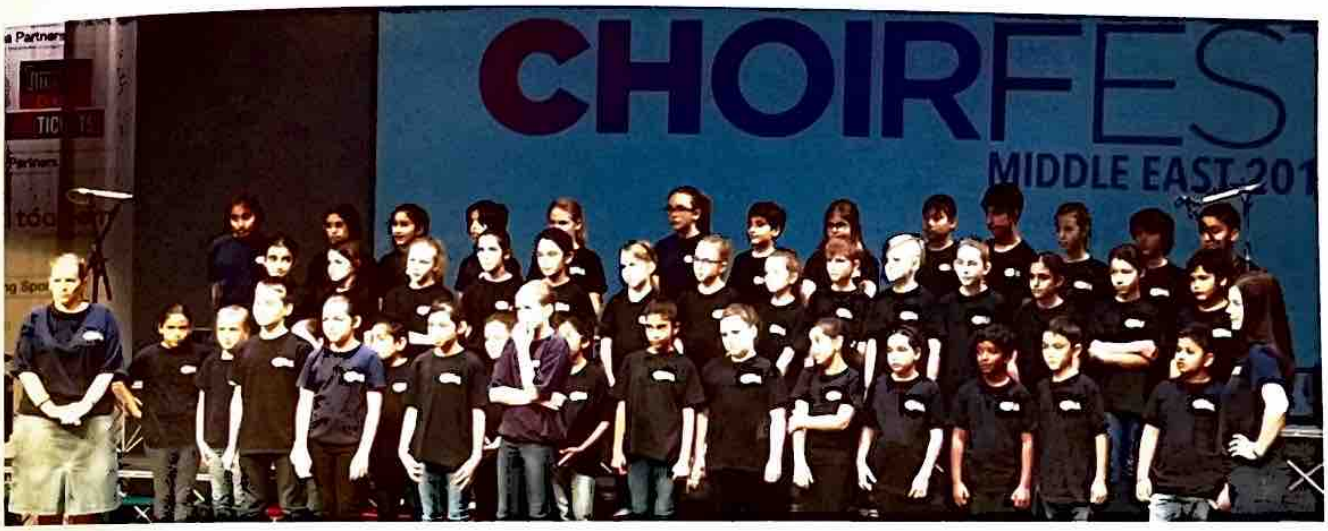
PS Choir

This year marks the third year for The DIAtones and the first set of graduating Year 6s who have been with us since the beginning! We continued to sing at school events including the National Day assembly, Year 6 exhibition and graduation, Winter Souk, X-Factor and various assemblies. We continued with our involvement with The Middle East Choir Festival, and The Dubai Literature Festival, both VERY successful performances. New to our calendar included an invitation to sing at The Capital Club in DIFC, The Movenpick Tree Lighting Ceremony at JBR and The Innoventures Film Festival. Our calendar continues to grow each year!

Next year we look forward to continue singing and performing together and making DIA proud!

Go DIAtones!

Ms. Heidi C. and **Ms. Cliodhna**



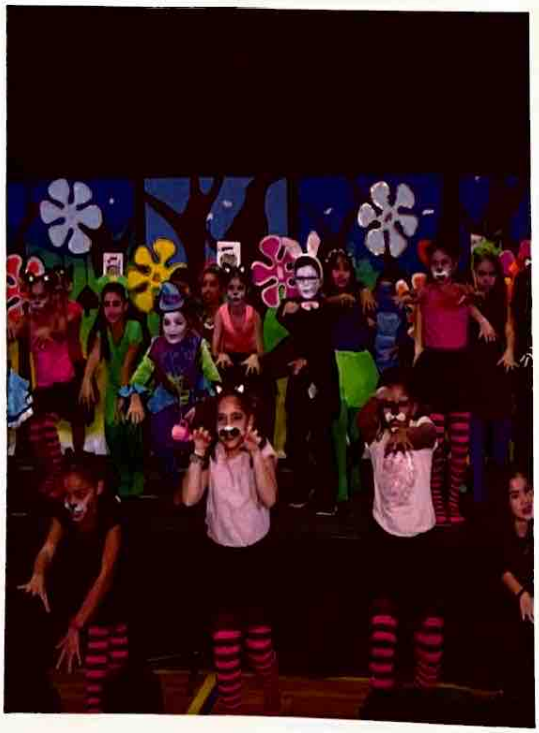
PS MUSICALS

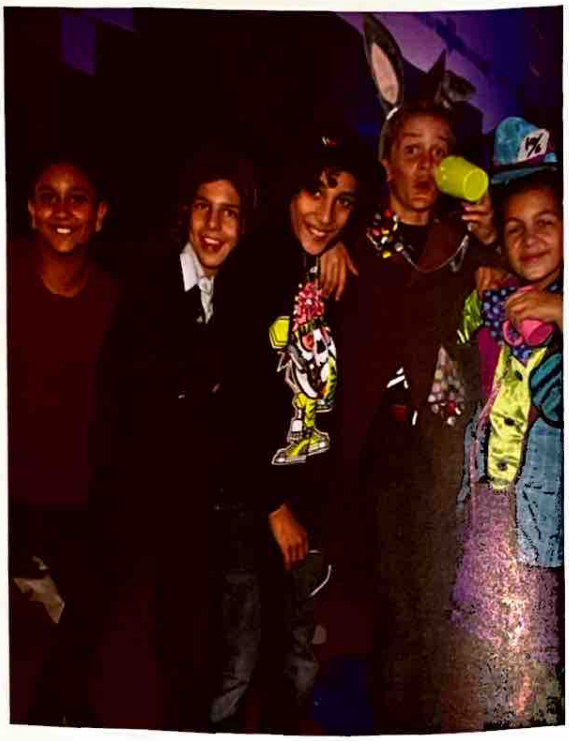
January was a busy month in the Primary School. Year 3 and 4 were involved in the musical "We are Monsters" and Year 5 and 6 performed "Alice @ Wonderland."

Alice @ Wonderland

Alice is a texting, tweeting and Googling girl of the modern digital era, yet she finds herself in the Wonderland of old. With all of the characters you know and love including the Mad Hatter, the White Rabbit and the Queen of Hearts, this musical imagines a present-day Alice encountering the Wonderland so many of us treasure

Through rehearsals, the cast of the two productions built on their self-confidence, developed communication skills and creativity, and above all, had fun! Everyone is very much looking forward to future productions in 2018!





PS MUSICALS

We Are Monsters

This is a hilarious new musical that follows human kids into a monster cabaret filled with quirky monster characters. The adventurous humans uncover vegetarian vampires and rock n' roll werewolves, gradually realizing there may be more to these monsters than meets the eye! Most importantly these monsters and kids discover the importance of friendship and celebrating in the attributes that make each of us different and unique

PS French and Spanish

PS Year 3, 4, 5, 6

This year we welcomed two new teachers in our team, Celina Arranz teaching Spanish and Charlotte Vanderstichel teaching French.

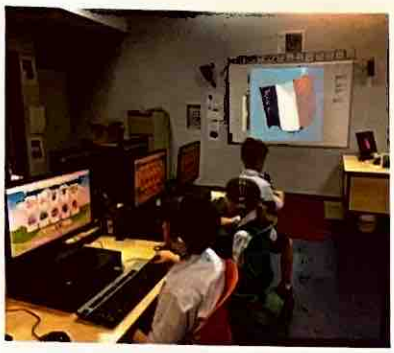
Students both in French and Spanish were encouraged to work more independently using spelling as well as pronunciation tools on their Ipads or laptops.

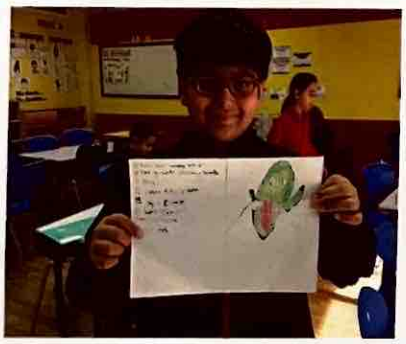
This year, especially in year 5 and 6, we focused more on verbs and tenses in order to give students better tools to express themselves in the target language independently as well as to creatively complete their projects using I movies and Slide shows.

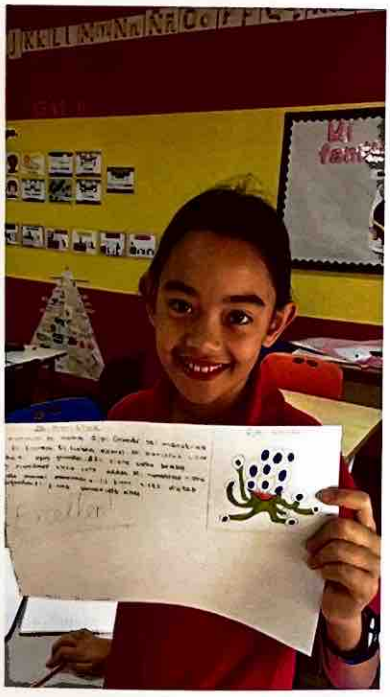
Merci !

¡gracias ¡

Milena Isacchi I Jean-Christophe Enard I Irene Merida Calvo I Celina Arranz I Charlotte Vanderstichel







PS FRENCH Mother Tongue

Curriculum and organization

The non-profitable French Association of DIA – FADIA – gathers the parents the French native speakers' community of DIA and is in charge of the organization of the lessons and most of the extra activities organized around the program.

Our program is run on the basis of 3 hours a week from year 1 to year 11 (niveau de seconde Française).

During those 3 hours, the children have lessons with an accredited teacher and follow the French National Curriculum accordingly to their year group level. We follow the CNED program that is the French national home schooling system accredited per the French government. On a voluntary basis, the children can register to the CNED and get an attestation of level at the end of the year.

The children attending to Y3 to Y6 have the possibility to follow 2 additional hours of French as language B. During this time they practice their lessons and do their homework, which makes a total of 5 hours of French included in the curriculum.

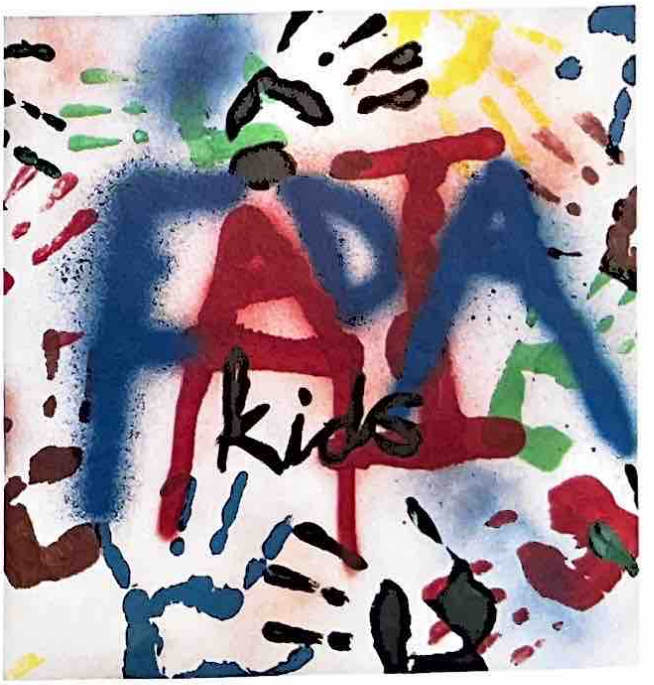
Fun and Culture

On addition to the language national curriculum objectives, we also include cultural aspects in the lessons. A special focus is done on the literature. The children attending to primary school all participate to a reading challenge.

Thanks to volunteer parents, the children were proud to produce a show during international day.

Our goal

On addition to the educational aspects, our initiative allows our children to socialize and help them to feel even more at home in DIA's cosmopolitan environment.



PS FINNISH Mother Tongue

The Finnish Programme is completing its 5th successful year. Over the academic year of 2016-2017 a great number of 50 students have been attending the programme! Our goal is to maintain a high standard of Finnish language skills to reinforce the connection with our home country.

In addition to students working hard on their language skills, we also celebrated our 100th anniversary of independence in school assembly. Throughout the year the students have also enjoyed celebrating prominent Finnish holidays. Also the active parents of the programme had a big role representing Finland in the International Evening, February 23rd.

One of the main goals of Finnish MT programme has been achieved as some of the students have returned back to our home country with confidence in their Finnish language skills. We are looking forward to new Finnish students joining our programme for the upcoming years.

Tervetuloa suomen kielen luokkaamme!

Finnish Programme at DIA – yhdistys lopettelee viidettä toimintakauttaan. Lukuvuoden 2016-2017 aikana suomen kieltä on opiskellut 50 oppilasta! Tavoitteenamme on jatkaa yhdistyksemme arvokasta työtä, jotta suomen kielen tasokas opetus ja siten suomen kieli säilyisi vahvana ulkosuomalaisten oppilaidemme keskuudessa!

Ahkeran suomen opiskelun lisäksi oppilaat osallistuivat koulumme aamunavaukseen kertoen Suomi 100 -taphtumasta. Oppilailla on ollut ilo juhlistaa luokassa merkittävimpiä suomalaisia juhlapäiviä. Lisäksi opetusohjelman aktiiviset vanhemmat mahdollistivat Suomen edustuksen Kansainvälisessä illassa 23.2. Suurkiitos Suomi-Seuralle luokkamme toiminnan tukemisesta.

Näiden viiden toimintavuotemme aikana on ollut ilo todeta, että kotimaahamme palaavilla oppilaillamme on ollut riittävät suomenkielen taidot pärjätäkseen suomenkielisessä ympäristössä.

PS DUTCH Mother Tongue

Our LanguageOne teachers provide the Dutch classes at DIA from KG to Yr 13 students. We try to maintain our Dutch language skills on a high level and want our pupils to be able to return to the regular education programme in the Netherlands or Belgium whenever needed.

The teachers follow the Dutch language curriculum and pay extra attention to vocabulary and communication skills. Spelling and grammar are also integrated in our program.

Our students' skills are assessed by the official Dutch CITO-assessment program. This makes it easy for students to make an objective and honest comparison of their own skills with the expectations of educational institutions in the Netherlands or Belgium.

Dutch and Belgium culture lessons are integrated in the lessons. Sinterklaas and Koningsdag are two of our most important celebrations which are covered in our lessons.

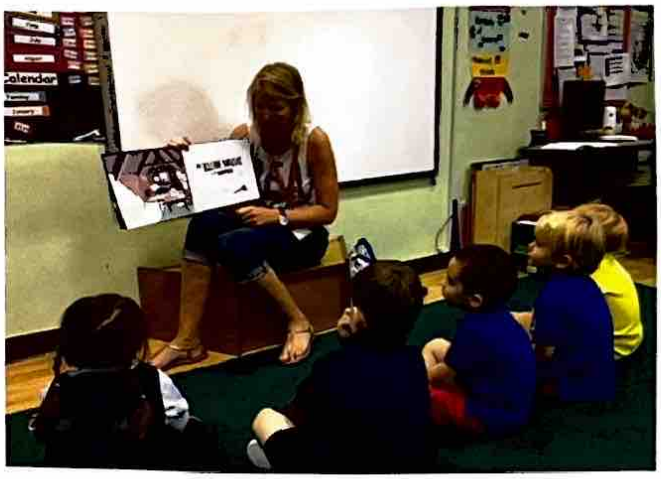
Welkom bij de Nederlandse les!

For more information: www.languageone.org

Dutch
(Netherlands)

and

Flemish
(Dutch speaking part of Belgium)



PS GERMAN Mother Tongue

German @ DIA

The German mother tongue classes at DIA have been taken place since the beginning of the school year 2008/2009.

All children with a German language background are welcome to join this extra paid activity. The classes are organized by a parent initiative with support by DIA.

The classes are held in small groups from 3-12 children per year group. That allows the teacher to concentrate individually on each child. Through the use of German text books and the incorporation of the POI topics, the students will deepen and expand their German vocabulary, their writing ability and use German in everyday life situations.

Deutsch @ DIA

Das Angebot 'Deutsch für Muttersprachler' an der DIA wird seit dem Schuljahr 2008/2009 von einer Elterninitiative mit Unterstützung der Schule organisiert. Alle Kinder mit einem deutschsprachigen Hintergrund dürfen gegen eine zusätzliche Gebühr daran teilnehmen.

Der Unterricht wird durch qualifizierte Lehrkräfte jahrgangsweise in Kleingruppen mit 3-12Schülern durchgeführt. So kann jedes Kind seinem Leistungsstand entsprechend gefördert werden. Anhand deutscher Schulmaterialien wie auch in Anlehnung an die jeweiligen POI-Einheiten (vergleichbar mit dem deutschen Sachunterricht) können die Kinder den mündlichen und schriftlichen Sprachgebrauch festigen und themen- und handlungsorientiert anwenden.

PS SWEDISH Mother Tongue

The Swedish Mother Tongue programme follows the Swedish curriculum (Lgr11*). The groups are small, which enables the teachers to focus on each student's individual learning progress. We focus on teaching reading, writing and communicating skills. As a routine, the students have three lessons a week within the DIA school hours.

Learning and understanding your Swedish Culture, History and Geography is important to strengthen your identity and the individuals' sense of belonging

This school year has brought lots of additional fun! Our students participated in the Swedish Olympics, a worldwide event held at Swedish Mother Tongue schools. Approximately 2500 students took part and the DIA Swedish group received medals. This is something we are extremely proud of.

Our Secondary students had the opportunity to meet with our Swedish Ambassador in Dubai. An interesting discussion was held regarding the roles and responsibilities of being an Ambassador.

We have of course kept our tradition of celebrating "Semlans"-Day, The Cinnamon Bun-Day and The National Day.

This year our amazing St.Lucia procession and performance was hosted by students ranging from KG up to Secondary. Our students were also invited to sing for the Swedish IKEA employees.

The International Evening was a success with many families contributing towards this annual event.

So in a nutshell our Swedish Mother Tongue had another successful year at DIA. Thank you for your smiles, your enthusiasm and super support!

*Läroplan för grundskolan och förskoleklassen 2011

SWESEC
SWEDISH SECTION AT DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

PS DANISH Mother Tongue

Danish mother tongue is running for the fifth year at DIA. We teach Year 1 to 11 and the size of the classes varies from 1 to 7 pupils. We follow the Danish curriculum and guidelines issued by the Danish Ministry of Education, "Fælles Mål for Dansk", and attempt to integrate special weeks and events going on at DIA in classroom activities, like Book Week, etc.

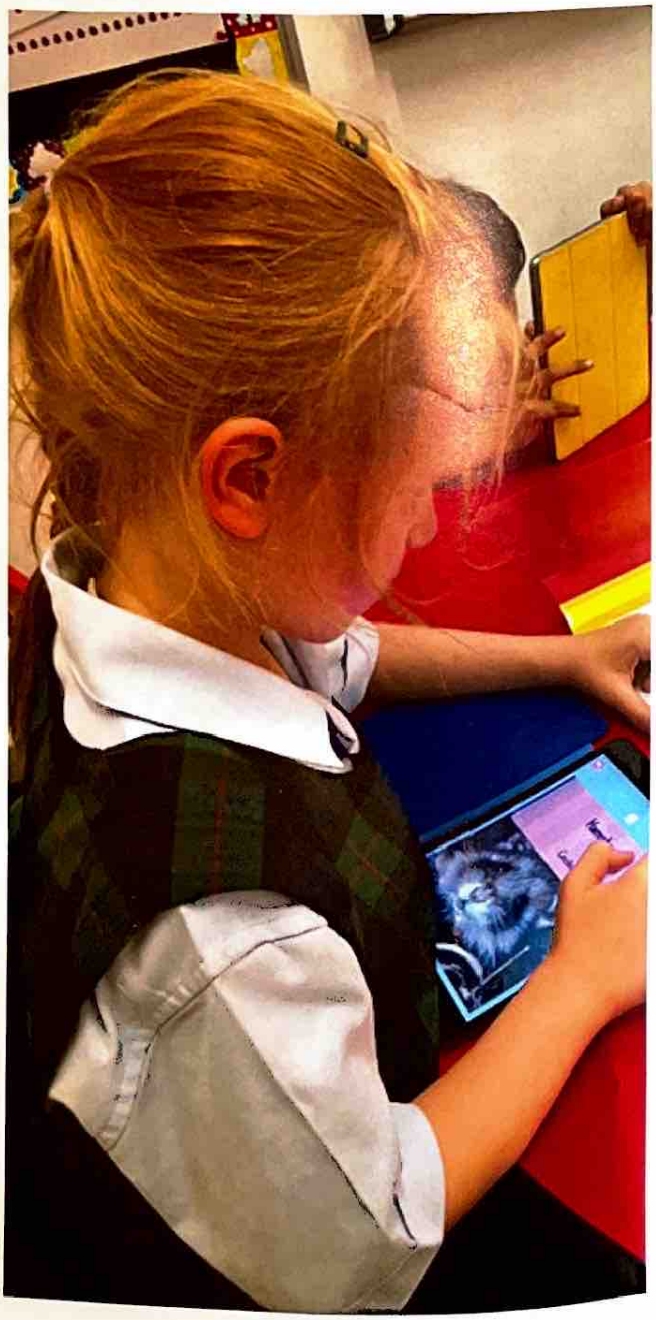
The Danish lessons consist of a wide variety of reading, writing and oral activities, which aim at increasing the vocabulary and comprehension of the students, as well as meeting the Danish requirements for each year level.

We have a well-assorted library, which allows pupils to choose from many books at their own reading level to secure a consistent progress.

Learning in small classes can be fun and challenging and allows the teacher to make individual plans in order for each student to develop academically and personally. A condition for participating in Danish at DIA is that the students, as a minimum, have to speak and understand Danish.

Please find more information on:

http://www.diadubai.com/learning/languages-at-dia/mother-tongue-programme or drop by PS122.



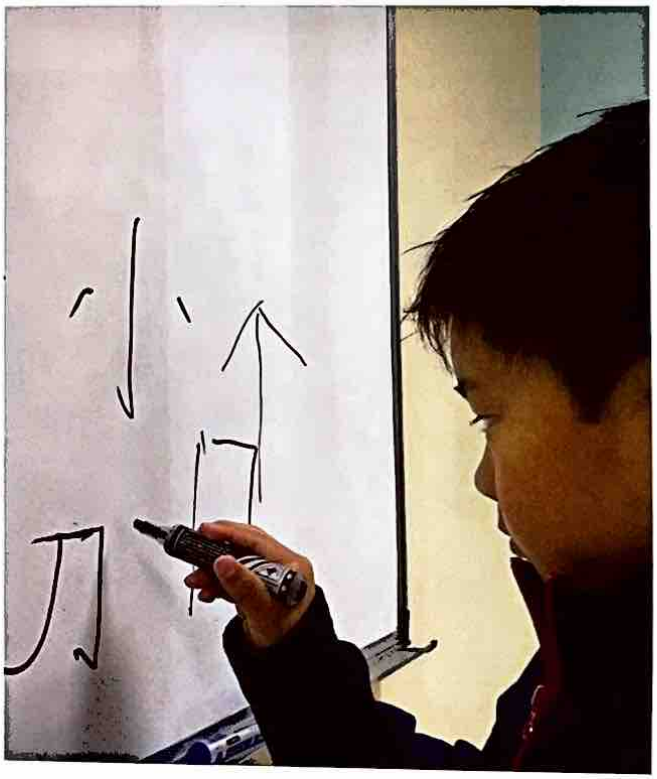
PS CHINESE Mother Tongue

Students learn mandarin in Chinese mother tongue class. We formulate the teaching contents according to the characteristics of the students. Training in speaking, writing, reading and listening skills to improving the ability to communicate with mandarin Chinese.

Join Chinese mother tongue class, singing, playing games, watching videos, tasting Chinese food... to study Chinese language, Chinese culture and Chinese people.

Please view and like our FB page for more information:

https://www.facebook.com/chineselanguageinstitutedubai/



PS ITALIAN Mother Tongue

The Italian Mother Tongue programme has been integrated in DIA for the past two academic years; it caters for both Primary and Middle School students, from year 1 to year 7 and will involve the year 8 in the coming academic year 2017 - 2018.

Teachers are accredited by the Italian Ministry of Education and follow the curriculum and guidelines of the Italian School. Students are provided with books that are currently in use in Italian schools, supported by material specifically designed to meet the need of bilingual learners.

The programme focuses on all the aspects of the Italian language, giving particular attention to improving the reading, writing & grammar skills of the students.

The activities are designed to constantly refer to the rich Italian cultural background, helping the students to gradually get familiar with it.

PS HINDI Mother Tongue

Hindi mother tongue program, with constant and unfailing support of the Indian community at DIA, continues to grow and for second year in a row is the largest mother tongue program at DIA

India is a land of cultural and linguistic diversity where children speak/read/write different languages. Keeping this in mind, the curriculum is tailor made to all children of Indian origin and adopted to each child's prior knowledge and capabilities.

Through the course of this year - our focus with beginners has been to lay solid foundation by focusing on learning alphabets, basic concepts and vocabulary that will enable children to recognize sounds, speak and do basic reading. Our more advanced risk takers have come a long way from reading short sentences to learning matra's, grammar and reading full stories now. Our methodology is activity based learning using fun games, role play, poems, stories, and extempore.

Our pursuit is beyond the boundaries of just learning Hindi language. We also bring alive our country, India, in the little hearts of our thinkers. Children learnt about major landmarks and hidden gems of India, celebrated various festivals and dance forms, gained insight on the History of India (Empires such as Maurya, Maratha, Mughal etc) and became well versed with various legendary writers of India. It's fascinating to see the enthusiasm in these students, especially when learning about Incredible India.

Overall it's been an absolute gratifying experience to see our young achiever's passion for learning Hindi language.

Best Regards,

दीपिका बहल **(Deepika Bahl)**

Hindi MT Teacher & Coordinator
http://diadubai.com/media/1842/hindi-mt-at-dia.pdf

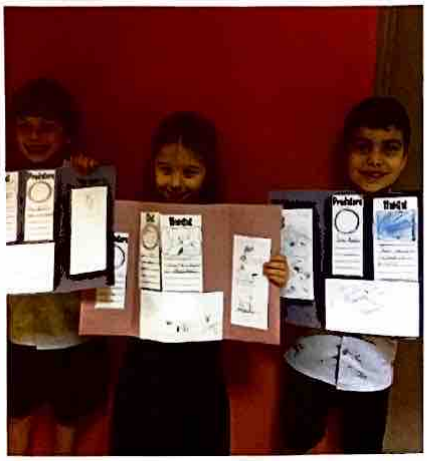
PS ESL

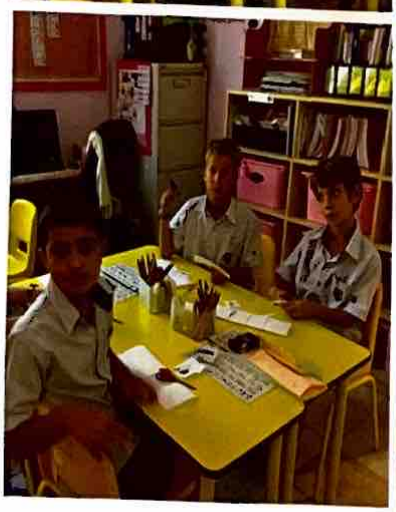
The ESL department is a support unit to provide students, whose first language is not English, with the facility to accelerate the learning of their new school language as rapidly as possible.

The ESL teachers work with the students in small groups either in the classroom (inclusion) or in the ESL room (exclusion) to help them become more confident and fluent in spoken and written English. The focus is to enhance and develop their four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing, whilst expanding their English vocabulary. This is done through the use of power point presentations, interactive online games, video clips, picture settings to describe, role-play and using finger puppets to retell stories.

Phonics, spelling, grammar and figurative language were learnt using a range of creative activities. Vocabulary was taught with pictures, labels and power point presentations of everyday objects and different topics.

This year has been an incredible journey with the progress each student has made, especially the new-comers to DIA who could barely speak a word of English at the beginning of the 2015 school year! Fantastic job ESL students!!





PS LEARNING SUPPORT

This has been another positive year for the Primary Learning Support department. Our team of highly skilled professionals, continues to work tirelessly to support our students who are most in need. Across the school, our learning support teachers and assistants share the common goal of helping all of our students in their journey towards positive outcomes and achieving their goals.

We have introduced new reading programs this year, including those specific to dyslexia, to support students across the whole school in achieving the required literacy skills. Several of our students have left the program at above age-related expectations. We continue to offer our successful booster groups across the school for social development, physical development and inquiry skills; the students involved have made excellent progress, which has impacted positively on their in-class performance.

Our department successfully offers a wide variety of screenings, to support teachers and parents in the identification of students for a range of learning difficulties. We also had another great year of working with external specialists, such as psychologists, therapists and counselors from agencies across Dubai, to offer the best support and guidance for our students within the school setting. Many of whom have presented at our parent information Coffee Mornings.

Amongst our celebrations this year, we saw some of our students receiving awards for academic excellence and others being part of winning sports teams, representing DIA. In the secondary school we were pleased to see the students we work with performing well in their exams and several gaining acceptance to their chosen Universities.

PS GATE (Enrichment)

What a fantastic year this has been at DIA with lots of our student's participating in activities and competitions to enrich their learning. From inquiring into the past to create historical newspapers to being risk takers and debating in front of large audiences, DIA once again have lots to celebrate!

We kicked off the year with the International Ken Ken competition and was blown away by the commitment shown by all DIA students participating, we even won some medals! This was swiftly followed by the Quest competition, Readers cup and the Litfest Fringe; with DIA once again taking home some awards.

Other highlights include meeting authors at the Emirates literature festival, participating in Dubai's hackathon event, programming and robotics classes as well as learning new sports with professional athletes. There really has been something for everyone!

Well done for embracing each and every learning opportunity and tackling each task with perseverance and open mindedness. We hope that you have enjoyed the challenge and look forward to what the New Year has to offer.

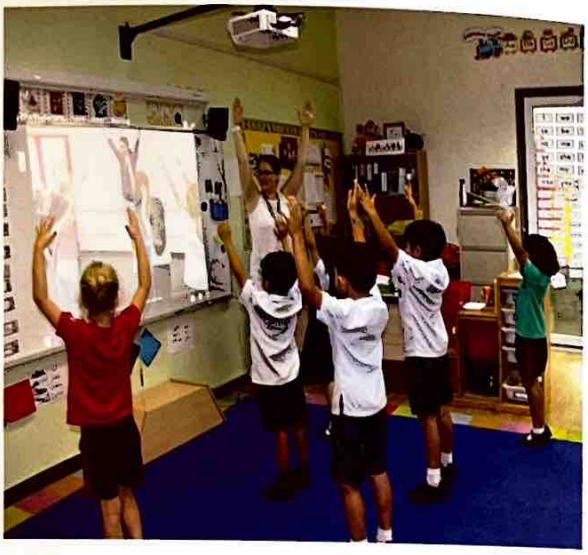
PS PE and CCA ACTIVITIES

A Message From Rob Turner Head of Primary PE

The Primary PE department aims to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum catering for the needs of all our students. We cover a wide range of activities including games such as footbal and netball, individual sports such as swimming and athletics, net games such as badminton and table tennis and aesthetic activities such as dance and gymnastics, we aim to extend our gifted children by being an active member of the inter school sports leagues in Dubai known as DASSA. We currently perform in all the major sports and would rank in the top 8 schools in Dubai at all sports and in many areas such as athletics and football we lead the way. We have 15 active coaches who coach more than 30 different teams. 2016/17 academic year was one that cemented our position as a major sporting school in Dubai, whilst growing areas such as rounders and ultimate frisbee.

PS PE and CCA ACTIVITIES

Dubai International Academy runs a broad set of activities ranging from spray paint art to chess. The activities both complement and extend the curriculum whilst being above all fun and enjoyable. Children get to see staff in a whole new light as they get the opportunity to teach areas outside the curriculum that they have a passion for.



PS ATHLETICS AND CROSS COUNTRY

We had a very successful season of athletics and cross country competing in the DASSA leagues. In cross country we were ranked the 10th best school in Dubai and in Athletics we were narrowly beaten by JESS Jumeirah and JPS to be the 3rd best team at Athletics. Most Noteable performances were from Greta Schmedes who was crowned the fastest u11 girl in Dubai and Abhay Krishna who was the 3rd boy at the Aquathlon.

PS BASKETBALL

Boys U9

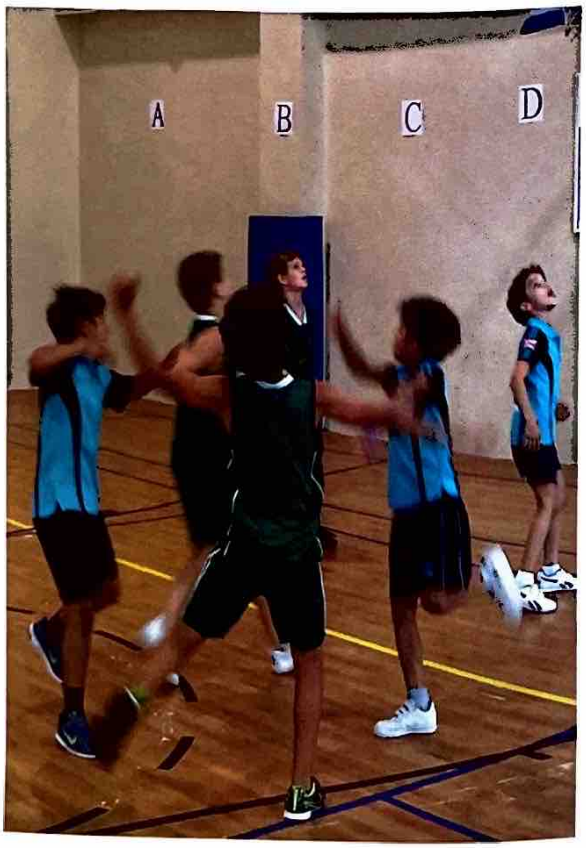
The Year 4 under 9 basketballers have had a very successful year so far. In the DASSA league we completed 7 games, winning 5 and losing 2. In the first 2 games of the year the boys were only getting to know each other. Unfortunately, we lost marginally in both games. Since then we have been on a winning streak of 5 wins in a row. We finished the year superbly, ending up in second position overall. As a result we have qualified for the semifinal which takes place later in May. The boys deserve a huge amount of credit. They have trained very hard on Thursday afternoons and this effort has been rewarded in their results. Well done to all the boys! Also I would like to thank all parents who have supported us at both home and away games. Go wolves!!

Mr. Lydon

Boys U11

The boys deserve a lot of credit, not only for making the team from a large pool but for all the hard work they have put in this season. We have focused on the fundamentals of passing, lay ups and rebounds. The team has come together well and by the end of the season they were playing as a tight, cohesive unit. Well done boys!

Mr. Lee



PS FOOTBALL

The Year 6 Boys football team were a fantastic team this year, consistently demonstrating team work and determination while having fun and looking out for each other. There were some amazing moments throughout, with incredible goals, tackles and saves from everybody. They shared the duty of Captain, each doing so with pride and respect for their team and opponents. They trained well with ISM, perfecting their already fancy footwork and handling, and it was a privilege to manage them through a very hard-fought season.

A great first season together as a squad. The boys have worn the shirt with pride and grown in their belief as a team and their abilities. The highlight of the season will always be winning the third tier trophy final but there have been many more pleasing moments along the way. Captain Julian has led by example and the training sessions have been excellent. Next year we start straight away in Year 4. All the squad will resume and as the manager I'll be looking for a couple new additions during the try outs.

PS NETBALL TEAM

Year 3

What an incredible inspiration our Year 3 squad was this year. The entire team was brand new and had never played before. They were dedicated little players, always working hard at trainings and bringing their all to our games. The girls showed excellence sportsmanship and resilience whilst playing against more experienced teams. I am sure that if they continue next year they will reap the rewards of their dedication. Keep it up girls!!

Year 4

Our Year 4 Wolves had a fantastic year challenging themselves against great opponents. Our year started with a dedicated team attending training sessions and supporting each other. We welcomed new comers to netball and showed them the ropes. The team quickly formed and were ready to go out there and have some fun! In the DASSA league, we completed 2 friendly tournaments and 6 matches, winning 4 and losing 2. All players performed greatly and I was very proud of each and every one of them. Such super team spirit. Throughout the year, Wolves got stronger physically and personally with lots of friendships forming and representing DIA. A big thank you to all of our parents who came out to support us each time at home and away matches, it was greatly appreciated. Go Wolves!

Year 5

The Year 5 Netball girls had an exciting and challenging year. The first few months of the season our focus was mainly on training, getting to know each other as team members and becoming fit. Although the girls were not new-comers to Netball, they still had to enhance skills and techniques. The girls maintained a wonderful team spirit throughout the season taking winning and losing in their stride! Great was the joy at our very few victories as we were up against tough opponents, but even greater was their amazing attitude to losing. In the league, we completed 2 friendly tournaments as well as 4 league matches, winning 1 and losing 3. The players performed well throughout the season and I have been very proud being their coach. The team grew closer and formed friendships throughout this season. I am extremely thankful to all parents and the support they have been giving the girls - it was greatly appreciated.

PS ROUNDERS TEAM

The Rounders teams had a very successful year, it was the first year that DIA had teams in the league. We had teams in the U9 and U11 girls' leagues and the U11 boys' league. In the DASSA league we finished the season winning the U11 Boys Plate Tournament held at the Dubai Regent School. Also notable were the U9 girls who finished runners up in the girls' Bowl competition and the U11 girls who were 1st in the bowl competition. Niamh was the player of the year in the U9s and Jenna was also very effective in the U11 competition.

PS SWIMMING AQUATHLONS

PS SPORTS DAYS

We had 6 sports days which ranged from KG1 to Year 6. They were inter house competitions designed to be run by the students for the students. The children were encouraged to be thinkers risk takers, knowledgeable and comunicators. Parents got involved in the tug of war and once again the mums won every competition

KG 1 A

Throughout the year, I have witnessed each and every child strive to be the best version of themselves. They have grown socially and emotionally, becoming Caring and empathetic friends. They have been Open-minded and hard-working when striving to reach their goals. The Butterflies have been independent and courageous when trying new things. They have learned to be Inquirers, continuously asking questions and developing a curiosity for the fascinating world that surrounds them. They have become Communicators, eagerly sharing their knowledge and expressing themselves with confidence.

We have shared wonderful experiences together when performing in the winter and spring concerts. We were explorers and enjoyed our field trip to Green Planet to investigate living things and their habitats. We enjoyed working with our buddies in Year 6 and best of all was getting a special performance of Alice in Wonderland during our Lakes walk.

I am so happy to have had the chance to teach such a special and charismatic bunch. We have shared many unforgettable memories together. Thank you to the parents for their continuous support. The butterflies have shown an every-growing love for learning and are ready to continue their journey in KG2.

Ms. Nada, Ms. Anri and Ms. Jovelyn

Fatma

Antonio

Tristan

Jarik

Alyna

Lawrence

Emanuele

River

Tara

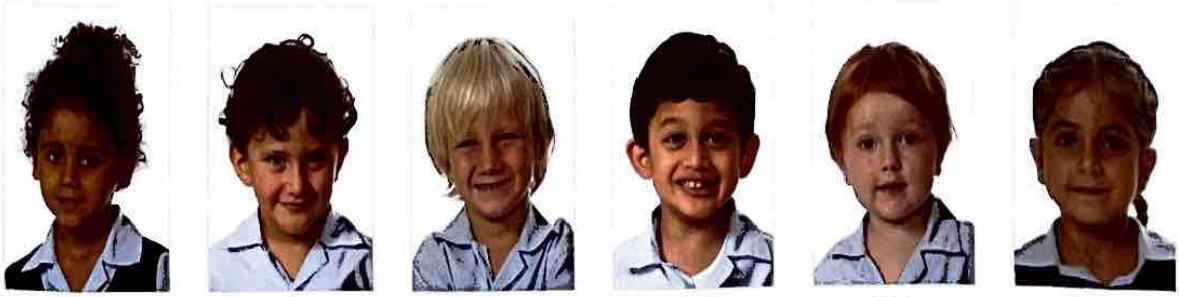
Livia

Victor

Tao

KG 1 A

Zoya Mika Linne Talia Laura Hay Ley Nirvaan



Dalia Karim Koen Noel Dylan Zoya

KG 1 B

Shine bright like a diamond!

The Fireflies went into this year with "bling". We learned skills and concepts through inquiry based learning and hands on experiences.

We explored the Green Planet and took a Nature walk with our buddies from Year 4E. We celebrated UAE National Day, Diwali, met Santa, sang songs at our Winter Concert and identified nationalities. During Sports Day we showed off our talents too.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I appreciate all you've done with helping our Fireflies becoming life-long learners.

Fireflies, you are ready to fly into KG2. And remember.....

You are braver than you believe, Stronger than you seem, Smarter than you look, Loved more than you know!

Kind regards and well wishes

Ms. Anel, Ms. Shama and **Ms. Charisse**

Anya

Anais

Max

Mila

Adreanna

Rishi

Aresha

Elisabeth

Nathan

Anna

Lara

Kisha

KG 1 B

Krystof

Oscar

Kenan

Isabella

Nazim

Avi

Kyan

Laia

Kristian

Klaus

Taymullah

Maria

Laura

KG 1 C

We have had an amazing year of social, emotional and academic growth in the Dragonfly class. It has been my pleasure to watch each and every child develop and flourish.

In the classroom, we interactively explored Who we are, How we express ourselves, Sharing the planet and How the world works. Our learning extended beyond the Dragonfly classroom when we visited Green Planet and took our Lakes Walk with our buddy class.

Throughout the year, our class has represented itself well in school initiatives and functions. Together, we celebrated UAE National Day, had a spectacular Christmas concert and were active participants on Sports Day. Many of our Dragonfly students and families were risk-takers and leaders at International Festival, performing and sharing their home culture and food by running booths.

We want to thank all of the Dragonfly students and families for such a wonderful, collaborative year and wish everyone success in their future endeavors.

Kind regards,

Ms. Holly
Ms. Amna
Ms. Cheri

George

Emmy

Sophia

Patrick

Daks

Samaira

Nikola

Paloma

Kenzie

Nai

Teani

Dahlia

KG 1 C

Lyn

Sarp

Rehaan

Khant

Noah

Aren

Zoé

Takeru

Sam

Rihana

Arta

Rebecca

Veer

KG 1 D

The Bumblebees started off their first year of school buzzing with excitement. We learned about, Who we are, in our first Unit of inquiry by looking at how we look and how we have changed. The stories we read took us on unbelievable journeys and we learned how to be Risk-takers and Caring friends. Looking at the living things in our garden was quite fascinating. Being Inquirers, we were able to learn about the different insects and animals we share the planet with. During our unit, How the world works, we got to play with water, learn about its properties and why it is so important to us.

We made special memories with our Year 5 Buddies this year. We had a picnic in the class, they took us on a lake walk and together we made beautiful works of art.

I feel so proud and blessed to have been a part of each Bumblebee's journey this year. You made the year so amazing! You are ready to spread your wings and fly into KG2!

Love Ms. Nadia
Ms. Valli
Ms. Hadna

Sonja

Gonzalo

Elisabeth

Eloise

Diego

Hassan

Amin

Gabriel

Aayat

Zien

Aya

Kate-Lynn

KG 1 D

Joaquin

Marek

Kimberly

Alyssa

Shaan

Jane

Petar

Astrid

Micah

Tylor

Emmely

Clara

Elias

KG 1 E

It has been a wonderful year in which we celebrated at every milestone along the way. KG1E were risk-takers and inquirers each day by making balanced choices about the activities they chose. They explored a variety of interesting topics and developed into little inquirers by asking many questions.

They enjoyed working with their Year 5E buddies and reflected on their learning experiences in various ways like reading, researching about bugs and went on a nature walk together. We had the chance to go on amazing field trips such as our visit to 'Green Planet', and 'Ginger bread Man' theatre production.

Thank you so much for an amazing year together grasshoppers. I wish you all the very best of luck for next year!

Ms. Rola, Ms. Kinjul, and Ms. Joy

Jena

Amadeus

Aden

JC

Charlotte

Taline

Aarav

Halley

Daniah

Hiya

Kariyna

Joshua

KG 1 E

Lilia

Emma-sophie

Felicia

Pablo

Jasper

Lucas

Ian

Gabriela

Kian

Layla

Albert

Karma

Maarten

KG 1 F

It has been an exciting year filled with a broad range of fun, interactive and practical learning engagements. The children have developed personally, socially, and emotionally, grown in confidence, self-esteem and aptitude.

My ladybirds have been encouraged to inquire, problem solve and develop their knowledge and understanding of the world through adult initiated and child lead activities. We considered changes in ourselves as well as the relationships we form in different environments during 'Who we are'. We explored 'How we express ourselves' through emotions and feelings and performed in front of an audience on several special occasions. We learned about 'Sharing the planet,' being internationally minded and how to be Caring towards living things. 'How the world works' enriched our understanding of finite resources and made us think about ways we can conserve water.

Thanks Ladybirds for a fantastic and very memorable year!

Ms. Stephanie, Ms. Chrisinda and **Ms. Evelyn**

Talk

Lea

Otto

Fabrizio

Mark

Deyven

Yasma

Jad

Naina

Elias

Lana

Nour Malak

KG 1 F

Aaryan

Edvin

Aydin

Dina

Milo

Sumire

Emma

Sofia

Nayla

Aylin

Leah

Wael

Baya

KG 2 A

KG2A have had an enjoyable second year in DIA, learning through play to become young inquirers. Through structured and planned activities the children have become more knowledgeable and better communicators. Through our 4 Units of Inquiry the children have developed their thinking and questioning skills. They have developed their understanding of roles and responsibilities within communities, how they can begin taking action to care for their local environment, experienced the world around them using their senses and learnt to communicate and express themselves through art. These units have been brought to life for the children through some wonderful field trips such as our visit to 'Little Explorers' , 'Kidzania', senses walk around the lake and a trip to the beach. Time spent with our year 4 buddies has been one of our favourite experiences. They have read stories with us, done science experiments with us and helped us with our art projects. Our first taste of school with **Ms. Louise, Ms. Harshani** and **Ms. Geraldine** has shown us that learning can be so much fun.

Elia

Frederico

Jameela

Helena

Pedro

Neel

Alexander

Ganea Alexandra

Luna

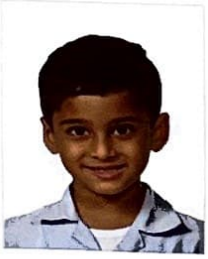
Emilie

Hao

Emilian

KG 2 A

Carla



Adam

Francesca

Jad

Vittorio

Stefanos

Nahome

Kalpita

Daisy

Leo

Manya

Isabelle

Filippa

KG 2 B

In KG2B we had a very busy year filled with exciting activities and learning opportunities. In just a few months we became more responsible and we learned how to share with or friends and how to be enthusiastic about our learning. We used our critical thinking skills to solve problems and to help others overcome obstacles they struggled with. We had some enriching experiences going to Little Explorers and KidZania, but we had the most fun going to the beach. During this year we became avid readers, expert mathematicians and super scientists, we love to write and to share our ideas with our friends. We had the pleasure of having Ms. Marife with us this year as Teaching Assistant. She is always smiling and taught her activities with enthusiasm and creativity. Ms. Lian was our Aide and the "arty" one, she could make a craft out of almost anything. Ms. May joined us for the last 2 months of the year as Ms. Lian had to go back home. In KG2B we made some everlasting friendships and showed that we care not only for each other but for environment too. Thank you to each and every one who made 2016-2017 a great year!

Ms. Amorie, Ms. Marife, Ms. Lian

Kaya

Armand

Ilze

Xandrea

Emilia

Alexander

Saanvi

Yassin

Marika

Mudra

Chloe

Jack

KG 2 B

Yasmine Eva Selin Ameer Zaynab Florence Oyku Abir

Yogi Artur Marc Taeke Mariasole Arthur Jude

KG 2 C

Throughout the year the children in KG2BG had lots of fun learning new skills in order for them to become independent learners. They made firm friendships within the classroom and have learnt how to care and show respect for each other. The children demonstrated that they are good risk takers in our Unit of Inquiry 'Who we are' by trying a variety of foods and being guided around the room, while being blindfolded. In our Unit 'Sharing the planet' they showed a good understanding of how pollution effects the ocean and beach environment and of its consequences. In our Community unit, 'How we organize ourselves', the children learnt to organize, negotiate and to reflect while working together on group collages. They became more aware of the role and responsibilities of people in their community and of themselves at home and in the classroom. The children enjoyed having their 'quiet time' to select and read their own choice of books and loved to share their stories with the class. Book week was very well received by the children and they enjoyed portraying their favourite character and sharing their chosen book with their friends.

Best wishes for the future,

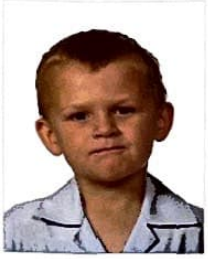
From,

Ms. Barbara, Ms. Monica and **Ms. Elisabeth**

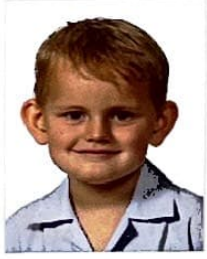
Soichiro Julie Sarannya Liam Hassan Lamprini

Dhruv Aaron Chevonne Ana Clara Rayan Leena Nada

KG 2 C



Ruben



Keoki

George

Matteo

Anya

Zahra

Stijn

Akira

Sarah

Ayna

Carl Henrick

Athanasios

Nelia

KG 2 D

KG2D had a wonderful year providing fun-filled opportunities and new skills in order to become independent learners. We have engaged in activities that enriched our multicultural awareness through celebrations and events such as International day, Diwali, Christmas and Eid, making us knowledgeable and open minded to cultures other than our own. Dramatic play, played a huge part in our classroom this year, it was not is only a sourse of wonder and magic, it also built their attention and engagement capacity and provided an opportunity for cognitive development. For example; pretending to be mommy or a doctor or a bowl of nuts and leaves is oatmeal for Goldolocks.

Our mini Olympics gave us a chance to be risk takers as we engaged in some fun and challenging physical activities.

This year KG2D has provided lots of giggles, fun and meaningful experiences. Each of your children has brought joy and happiness into our classroom. I was so fortunate to have such a wonderful group of children this past year.

Best wishes

Ms. Heidi, Ms. Andrea and Ms. Judy

Thalia

Lisa

Elliot

Vivaan

Mila

Natalie

Rebecka

Henrietta

Emilia

Ethan

Noah

Vincent

KG 2 D

Farouk

David

Asad

Saveliy

Lola

Meira

Issam

Ines

Karim

Luna

Tia

Yash

Hugo

KG 2 E

Wow, what a year! It has been one full of wonderful experiences and exciting adventures. Through many activities the children have developed their social, emotional, physical, maths, language and literacy, creative and science skills. We have been on a beach trip to see how we are 'Sharing the Planet' and learnt 'Who We Are' by understanding the world through our senses. We have explored our community by seeing 'How We Organise Ourselves' and used creativity and imagination when you 'Express Yourself' through various art forms. The children have shown that they are curious and creative by cooperating and engaging in all of the Units of Inquiry as well as our daily learning centres. Through many new experiences the children have shown they are Risk Takers and curious to learn. They have had many opportunities to be inquirers on our trips, especially when we went to 'Little Explorers', the beach and the lake.

With friends from many nationalities, it has been clearly visible that the children in KG2E are caring and open minded by their participation in the various celebrations from across the globe that we have enjoyed. During these celebrations, the children learnt to appreciate and respect the many cultures within our class.

The children have built the foundation on which their future school life will rest, through discoveries made and knowledge acquired, friendships formed and lessons learnt. Each child has brought laughter and happiness into our classroom and I have been fortunate to have such a wonderful group of children this year. Thank you KG2.

Regards,

Ms. Adele, Ms. Sai and Ms. Dode

Emma

Alexander

Nabil

Yeppe

Maximilien

Ivi

Daniela

Sophia

Diego

Franziska

Cole

Luis

KG 2 E

Paul

Emma

Armaan

Maral

Yasmin

Liam

Boris

Anay

Ella

Kara

Cedric

Ayaan

Sophie

KG 2 F

It's hard to believe that we have come to the end of our academic year, one that has taken us on a journey of wonderful learning. The children have made connections in their learning through their curious and investigative nature, as demonstrated not only by the work that they have produced, but also through their cooperative and engaging mindset in all the Units of Inquiry. This enthusiasm for the Units of Inquiry, has transcended into their everyday learning helping them further develop their social, emotional, physical, math's, language and literacy, creative and science skills.

Through field trips learning is extended to give a deeper meaning. The trip to the beach gave the children a real insight to how as people we have an effect on our environment and how they can begin to make small changes. This understanding of roles and responsibilities was further developed through "How We Organise Ourselves' by visiting 'Little Explorers'.

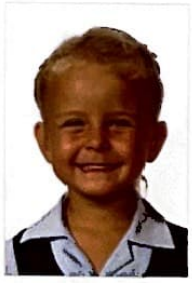
By learning together our journey has been filled with fun meaningful experiences, which firmly cements the foundations of our future learning here at DIA. It's been an amazing year and a real pleasure to teach such a wonderful group of children as KG2F.

Regards,

Ms. Kay, Ms. Amelia and Ms. Rachelle

Allex

Judy



Maja

Maria

Chloe

Nicolas

Tommaso

Lynn

Malthe

Ismail

Alex Zohrab

Leander

KG 2 F

Jack

Adrianna

Aamir

Deniz

Mytheli

Yousef

Victoria

Varen

Ahmad

Hugo

Julia

Reana

Sebastiaan

KG 2 A GRADUATION

KG 2 B GRADUATION

KG 2 C GRADUATION

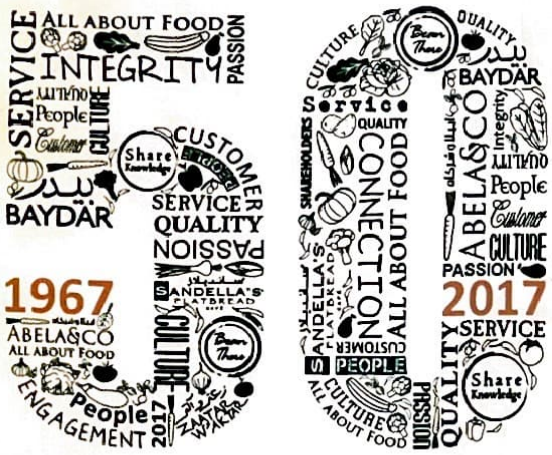
KG 2 D GRADUATION

KG 2 E GRADUATION

KG 2 F GRADUATION

ابيلا وشركاه

ABELA&CO



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Year 1 A

What an amazing year of learning through explorations and inquiries, I can't believe our fun filled year is over! Not only did we learn by engaging in different activities we even learned to be Caring and Communicated with our friends in different settings. Through our Units of Inquiry about the human body, importance of recycling, different countries, transport, forces and stories we proved to be Knowledgeable, Thinkers and Inquirers. During classroom activities, we were Well-Balanced and Principled by ensuring we completed all our activities in small groups as well as independently.

We were Open Minded as we enjoyed working with our year 3 buddies and reflected on our learning experiences in various ways like reading, researching and making different models. We were Risk Takers by trying out new challenging activities and performing for assembly. We worked on attitudes like Cooperation and Independence by going for various field trips and of course, the one enjoyed the most was our pirate adventure!

I enjoyed each activity and cherish the relationship I formed with each of you. I wish you all the very best for all your future endeavors and hope you all shine as the brightest stars!

Best wishes,

Ms. Kopal

Ms. Claire

Ryan Kyo Joschua Myra Adam Charline

Gideon Imogen Yosef Vivienne Wadih Veer Shabbar

Year 1 A

Elisabeth

Kareem

Adrian

Irja

Tea

Beatriz

Jamie

Martina

Noah

Maher

Edouard

Ramzi

Noor

Year 1 B

Year-end has come around in 1B all too soon.

We started our learning journey improving our reading and writing and demonstrated this in our first assembly where the children of 1B shone like a sky full of stars and retold one of their favourite stories to a captive audience. The children have been great Inquirers as to how their bodies work and what different systems make up their bodies. As we moved on to our unit on recycling the children showed how they were all caring, illustrating one of the IB learner profiles. They took action at home by bringing in plastic, paper and metal for recycling in order to look after their planet. Then we glided into our topic on why we move around our world? The role play area of our classroom was transformed into a travel agency where they sold tickets to far flung places of the world for business, family or leisure. I was even flown in the class jet home to Ireland to visit my mum! Wielding swords and rocking eyepatches we transformed the beach of Umm Sequim into a swashbuckling pirate adventure where 1B worked on their creative side by writing messages for pirates, creating treasure maps and finally saving Neverland. In Maths the learning has been amazing from telling the time to addition and subtraction and place value in between. Thanks to our class mum's Annika and Marie for all your help this year. To the children of 1B it has been a pleasure to watch you grow on your learning path witnessing your tremendous reading skills and seeing your writing go from strength to strength. The sky's the limit. Good luck in year 2!

Best Wishes,

Ms. Andrea Waller, Ms. Janna

Vanessa

Haya

Samy

Lucia

Riyana

Hamza

Sam

Ruyu

Alexander

Hashem

Alexandros

Leyla

Year 1 B

Nico Anton Nicholas Jai Teodor Eeva Christian

Szonja Emma Jaimeek Perla Zane Livia Kayan

Year 1 C

Year 1C have had a fantastic year and I am so proud of what we have achieved together. We have created wonderful memories through the excellent opportunities we have been given; we dressed as our favourite book characters to celebrate 'World Book Day', disguised ourselves as Pirates when visiting the beach as part of 'Everybody Writes' and experienced different national dress and customs as part of 'International Day'.

Through investigating our different Units of Inquiry we have learned about how our body's work, the need for different modes of transport in our everyday life, and the importance of recycling. Year 1C demonstrated their fantastic knowledge and confidence by sharing what they had learned through our class assembly on Recycling. Most importantly we have become excellent 'Communicators' by sharing our ideas, 'Inquirers' by asking questions to further our knowledge and understanding, as well as being 'Open Minded' to learn about different cultures and show our respect to others.

Thank you Year 1C for making this year so memorable and rewarding. I am sure you will all continue to work hard and I wish you all the best of luck in Year 2!

Ms. Jillian, Ms. Julie Anne

Adhil

Shoog

Dominik

Viraaj

Saif

Alya

Morgan

Kayla

Nabil

Teresa

Prisha

Linus

Malek

Year 1 C

Amina

Niels

Matthieu

Artin

Nikolett

Lucas

Vicky

Yuxuan

Antara

Tricia

Viraj

Sophia

Emma

Year 1 D

What an amazing year of fun and learning we have experienced in 1D! Throughout the year we have explored a variety of interesting topics. We became scientists by learning about our bodies and making our own blood. During our unit 'Where We Are in Place and Time' we researched new information on the UAE and our home countries.

Our year was also filled with many fun events. We lived like pirates for a day searching for treasure at the beach. We researched many interesting facts on pirates and presented a lovely assembly sharing these facts with our families and friends. Also, we dressed up as our favourite characters for World Book Day.

You have all made me so proud I have watched you work as part of teams, make new friends and grow in confidence as you have all become wonderful readers and writers. It has been an absolute joy and pleasure to watch you be so Caring to your friends, be Risk-takers in your learning and become so Knowledgeable. We have created so many happy memories in 1D and I know you will continue to do so when you embrace your new learning journey in Year 2.

Ms. Niamh, Ms. Faryal

Talia

Hana

Zohair

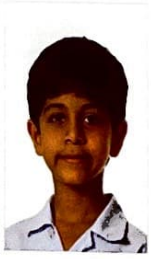
Emma

Henrique

Felix

Jenna

Sara



Shihaab

Evert

Eliska

Oliver

Zoe

Year 1 D

Edgar

Kosta

Alex

Luca

Evelyn

Angeline

Ronja

Raphael

Omar

Issa

Nanna

Max

Andrew

Year 1 E

This has been an amazing year in 1E. They have grown so much both academically and socially. We have developed great communication skills and an open-minded approach to working together through activities and field trips. It has been really rewarding watching them become confident risk-takers while presenting work to their peers in a relaxed manner. They have been focused and fearless in how they approach new topics while respecting each other's learning journey.

We have been very lucky in how well the class have been supported, in both the classroom as well as on field trips by dedicated parents who offer their time.

We celebrate and embrace all festivals in 1E and especially special moments like birthdays. We had a class picnic at the beginning of the year to build relationships and friendships, which really helped to galvanize and create an environment which is second to none.

Wishing you all the very best for Year 2 from

Mr. Stephen, Ms. Julia

Yusuf

Isabell

Louis

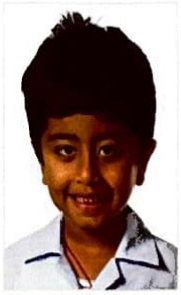
Kilian

Benjamin

Danielle

Alexis

Harold



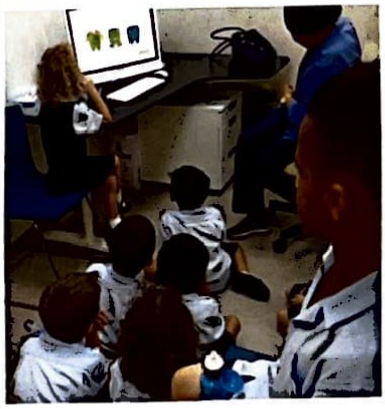
Yuvraj

Hadi

Ilham

Adam

Year 1 E



Richard Ali Kian Kayra Stella Zara Sisu

Victoria Elena Rishaan Layla Tiago Chloe Yazeed

Year 1 F

This year in 1F we explored how exciting reading and writing can be. We enjoyed learning how to express ourselves, sharing our knowledge and experiences through writing, group work and show and tell.

Reading has been an adventure as first of all we recapped old sounds and learnt all about some new sounds. Luckily Ms Jenna taught us some cool rhymes to help us remember the rules. Many of us caught the reading bug and now love to spend time reading. We all looked forward to our guided reading on Thursdays with our parents sharing this lesson with us.

Through our Units of Inquiry we have had the opportunity to explore lots of questions and ideas. We have learned how we interact in the world and how the world around us works. We have been on many fun field trips of which our favourite was the visit to the Cultural Centre. We were also blessed with lots of parental involvement that broadened our learning and encouraged us to think further.

As enthusiastic mathematicians we learned how the number system works and how we can add and subtract and apply this to problem solving. We enjoyed measuring ourselves and comparing our heights. Inquiring into money and exploring different coins from around the world gave us the opportunity not only to practice our math skills but also provided a wonderful opportunity to learn about different countries' currencies.

Ms. Jenna, Ms. Shirley

Alex Dina Dries Zaid Merle Ciaran Tamara

Mohamed Caspar Joey Noah Alexander Youcef Athanasia

Year 1 F

Maya

Ahmed

Pratosh

Maia

Vritti

Olivia

Thomas

Isabella

Elke

Armaghan

Jiyu

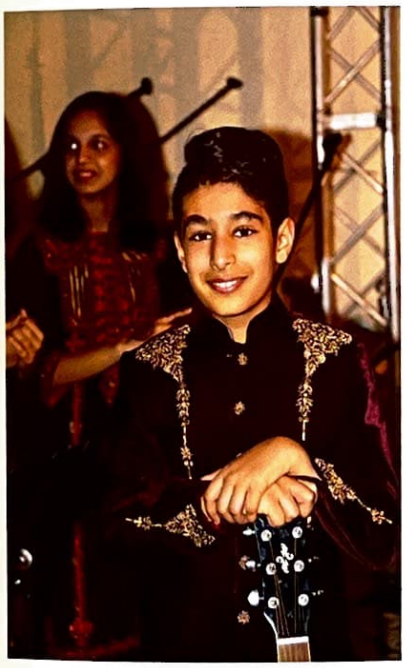
Elie

Chloe

International Evening

Undoubtedly one of the highlights of the school year is our PADIA International Evening. A chance to showcase the different nationalities, cultures and traditions represented in our school community, it is a fantastic evening of parent, student and community involvement. This year saw our biggest and most diverse collection of nations and a special thank you goes to the PADIA core group for managing the preparations for the evening, as well as running the event itself. Thank you to our student comperes too and to the country representatives for all of your hard work – this is your event and it gets bigger and better every year!

International Evening



Year 2 A

As the busy bee droning sounds and the hustle and bustle of classroom activity wind down, it is once more that time of year to reflect and bid farewell to the boys and girls of 2A.

Has it really been a year already? That sounds like a long time ... about the same length of waiting in line at Spinney's or a hot and humid day in Dubai. Those too can seem to go on for a while. From the boundless inquiries made through our units of inquiry to the excursions on field trips to explore and satiate our wonderings, we have gained much more than knowledge. We have gained love and respect for one another, we have gained the skills and strategies needed to solve problems, we have gained courage and persistence to move forward no matter how difficult tasks may be.

I remember entering the classroom in August with my brand new resources and head full of fresh ideas, ready to tackle another year of making a difference. I thought I was the teacher and you, the students, were my pupils. How wrong I was; for I have learned so much from you, the students of 2A. You have taught me to keep faith in each and every one of you. You have taught me to persevere when days are long. You have taught me to laugh in the midst of absolute exhaustion. But most importantly, you have taught me that I love what I do, because of you.

To the students and parents of 2A...thank you for your energy and vibe this year. You kept things going like the energizer bunny. May you find success and love in all your future endeavors in your quest to seek knowledge and growth!

Ms. Manal, Ms. Suzanna

Mohammed Rien Vance Arhaan Ewan Arthur Dihain

Aimie Amna Youssef Enda Hoor Anna Zain

Year 2 A

Noor

Haran

Rim

Toshani

Alveera

Saanchi

Skander

Nyah

Simran

Pranav

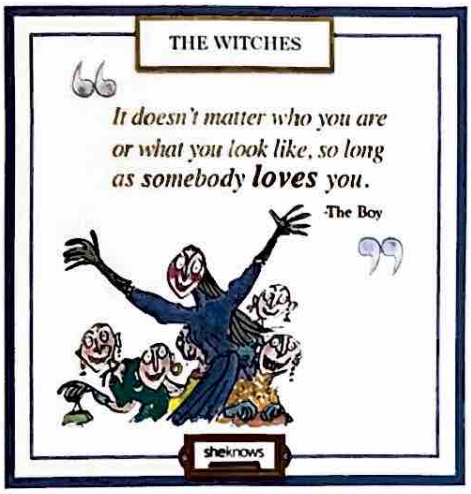
Erika

Maria

Carl

Year 2 B

What a fantastic year in 2B! I am so proud to have watched new friendships blossom and the children grow into well balanced individuals. There have been lots of challenges along our learning journey, however each has been met with perseverance and the ambition to succeed. A class full of confident self-inquirers always eager to find out more and take action. We have been on many field trips in our search for learning opportunities from Dubai Aquarium to looking for our pirate friends on the beach. Book day and our fairyland ball were particular highlights, the children loved reading good books and trying to write even better ones! Solving problems in math, asking lots of questions in unit of inquiry and using our phonic knowledge; 2B proved they are reflective thinkers. The children have been real risk takers by presenting their research to one another and participating in assemblies. Looking back on the year we can reflect on the special memories that we have made and the lasting friendships. Well done 2B myself and Miss Elisa will miss all of you lots xx



Ms. Donna, Ms. Elisa

Mohammad Bassam Yousif Henrique Dan Electra

Max Hana Tia Lina Stanislas Kevin

Year 2 B

Youssef

Ivan

Aroush

Leticia

Maximilian

Lara

Tamim

Jolie

Elisa

Keara

Edoardo

Isabella

Yu Ching

Zed

Year 2 C

What a busy and exciting year, full of new and exciting learning experiences 2C has had this year.

It has been a pleasure to watch the students develop their independence, learn new skills and become critical thinkers.

We have had fun dressing up for different events in the year group and school wide, our favourite being the Fairytale Ball. We have had great field trips that included the Aquarium.

The children have developed their inquiry skills throughout our units and worked on their collaboration skills while working in groups. We have completed some fun projects like our habitat dioramas.

A special thank you to the parents who have helped out in the classroom this year, especially the reading mums who come every week. A huge thank you to our class mum who has been vital in all aspects of our classroom this year.

I would like to wish all the children the best of luck in Year 3. I know you will continue to dream, aspire and achieve.

Ms. Julia, Ms. Annette

Ms. Airish

Samaya

Leandre

Andreas

Seif

Alishba

Zoe

Gina

Carolina

Marcus

Luka

Year 2 C

Max

Ryan

Hugo

Aleksa

Rishab

Maximilian

Lamar

Maxence

Lydia

Giulio

Abdul Rehman

Aditya

Ruhin

Jhanvi

Linnea

Year 2 D

In 2D we've had a great year, creating many memories along the way...

The children were enthusiastic inquirers as they researched about different habitats. They were open-minded as they enjoyed learning about events and celebrations around the world. They were confident communicators when creating their instructional videos. They were amazing risk takers in their fairy tale assembly. Each child in the class has made good progress and along the way had lots of fun. Some of the highlights being our pyjama party, fairy land ball, trip to the aquarium and our dojo treats!

Thank you 'class mums' for all your help along the way and parents for your positive support. Most importantly- thank you children of 2D for always being so well-balanced in all that you did and making it a wonderful experience to teach you. Ms. Mala and I will miss you all and wish you good luck in your learning journey ahead.

Ms. Shaheena, Ms. Mala

Taveer

Armaan

Jonathan

Layan

Thijs

Winston

Leopold

Oskar

Aurora

Leo

Ayaan

Victoire

Year 2 D

Laur

Arhaan

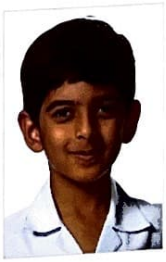
Idhant

Willow

Omar

Isabel

Tara



Ayan

Emma

Alicja

Sylvie

Karolina

Elizabeth

Zachary

Year 2 E

We have been so lucky in 2E to have had a busy and exciting year full of new learning experiences.

I have thoroughly enjoyed watching the students grow in independence, develop new skills and become critical thinkers.

We have spent our time learning how to question, predict, research and collaborate in order to gain a deeper understanding of the world around us.

The highlight for me has been watching the students develop meaningful friendships with one another. They have treated each other with great respect and celebrated their uniqueness and diversity. This is something I hope they take with them long after DIA.

A special thank you to the parents who have helped us on our learning journey. You have been an invaluable asset and we are very grateful for your time and efforts.

Ms. Dhanya and I wish you all the best of luck in year 3. We are confident you will have a fantastic year where you continue to grow and achieve.

Ms. Leah and **Ms. Dhanya**

Laura

Eleina

Raya

Avni

Faris

Mahi

Nicholas

Tristan

Noah

Alejandra

Ferris

Nirvan

Year 2 E

Kunnjal

Hamza

Emitis

Malak

Samarbir

Kian

Anae

Ananya

Hugo

Vaibhav

Loukas

Elie

Max

Zoya

Year 2 F

They say, ...time flies, when you're having fun.... that certainly applies to Year 2F this year. Due to our unique mix of fun, intelligent, caring and open minded children the class had an amazing learning journey whilst making friends to last a lifetime.

Reading was our key focus and with a little help from Sophie, George, Matilda and James, we were able to truly fall in love with books. Other than classics by Mr. Dahl, the children read a huge range of fiction and non-fiction books on RAZ-Kids as well as borrowing from library. In our narrative unit we also managed to write our own creative and well-structured stories.

Our learning experiences outside the classroom ranged from visiting the Heritage Village in Deira learning about the past, to the Dubai Aquarium to learn how animals have adapted to different environments. We even had a 10-meter inflatable dome constructed at school for us to study light.

Throughout the year we had great fun celebrating festivals and events from a range of cultures around the world. We also had a lot of fun on class events, organised by our 'class mum' and the other wonderfully helpful parents!

Thank You, 2F for making 2016/17 such a memorable year for me and I wish you all well in your future adventures. Good luck...

Mr. Horne, Ms. Pallavi

Habiba

Vendela

Inshal

Alman

Misja

Serena

Leonard

Sofia

Leopold

Hana

Alina

Nicole

Year 2 F

Ayaan

Sean

Laura

Anton

Bram

Kendra

Alexa

Yassine

Ruben

Hugo

Filip

Mina

Ishaan

Adam

Year 3 A

I am so proud of the children in 3A. There have been many wonderful memories created throughout the year and it has been very rewarding to watch each child develop academically and personally. Among the many achievements this year the greatest, I think, has been the mutual respect which has been cultivated in class. 3A have consistently demonstrated so many Learner Profiles. They have been Risk-Takers when taking part in the Year 3 Camp@DIA and our assembly; Caring when working collaboratively; Inquirers when researching for our Museum Day and Science Fair; Communicators when participating in the many 'Show and Tell' presentations; and Reflective when choosing their targets and guiding their own learning. Well done, a very Balanced year all round!

Have a great holiday!

Ms. Laura

Sanad Lora Jacqueline Lea Gabriela Aarush Stefano

Naisha Katherine Misha Yara Grace Aytan Jack

Year 3 A

Ella

Ayaan

Noura

Kori

Aria

Dhruv

August

Nina

Noah

Yeva

Julian

Vincent

Henry

Year 3 B

What an exciting year!! 3B has participated in so many learning experiences and demonstrated **Principled** behavior with a growing awareness of responsibility and independence. I have seen the class go from strength to strength in their **Knowledge, Thinking** and **Reflection,** both academically and socially.

Throughout the year 3B have engaged in a broad range of topics, from being excellent **Communicators** by expressing themselves through symbolism, to being **Inquirers** into ancient historic sights of the UAE. The students have shown exceptional skills by being **Balanced** involving themselves in a range of different sporting events, musical talents and even being huge **Risk-takers** with their first overnight camp.

We were extremely lucky to have the **Caring** support of parents to encourage **Open-mindedness** by recognising many different cultural events and celebrations. I have seen so much progress from these cheeky monkeys and I truly wish them the best for Year 4. Looking forward to seeing shining stars in the future!

Ms. Lisa

Jad Muaaz Luna Joel Charlotte Camille Alix

Sofia Elmarie Emma Jakob Niko Janelle Olivia

Year 3 B

Aliyah

Nina

Daniel

Lily

Hugh

Julia

Maximilian

Ethan

Aditya

Lucie

Harman

Isabela

Troy

Year 3 C

What an amazing year in 3C! I have felt privileged to be part of this awesome group's educational journey, watching them develop and grow as individuals, and as a class. I feel I've learnt a lot from them all and loved every minute of being their teacher.

We've had fun showing our creative sides making dances, films and performing; we explored the history of the U.A.E and tested our archeological skills to find out more about the past; used our investigative skills to solve the mysterious case of Ms. Rebecca's classroom; conducted experiments as scientists to explore matter and the building blocks of the universe, and took action to try and make the world around us a better place.

The Year 3 camp was a highlight for all and I was proud of how independent, responsible and resourceful everyone showed themselves to be. We got to show our athletic skills at sports day and let's not forget everyone who did an incredible job performing in the musical and the choir.

It's been an absolute blast getting to know you all and I have 100% confidence in your success in the future and wish you all the best.

Mr. James

Riddhi

Anishka

Inaya

Hussein

Andrea

Laiba

Ethan

Demi

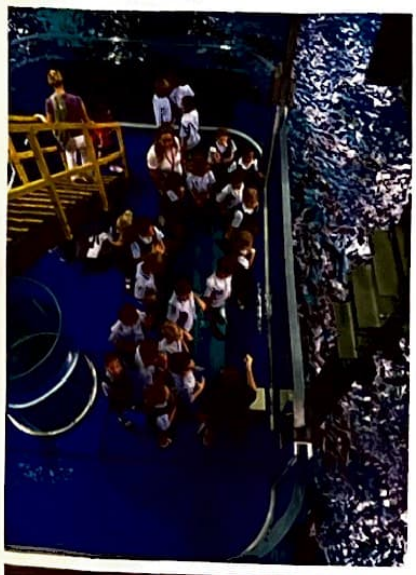
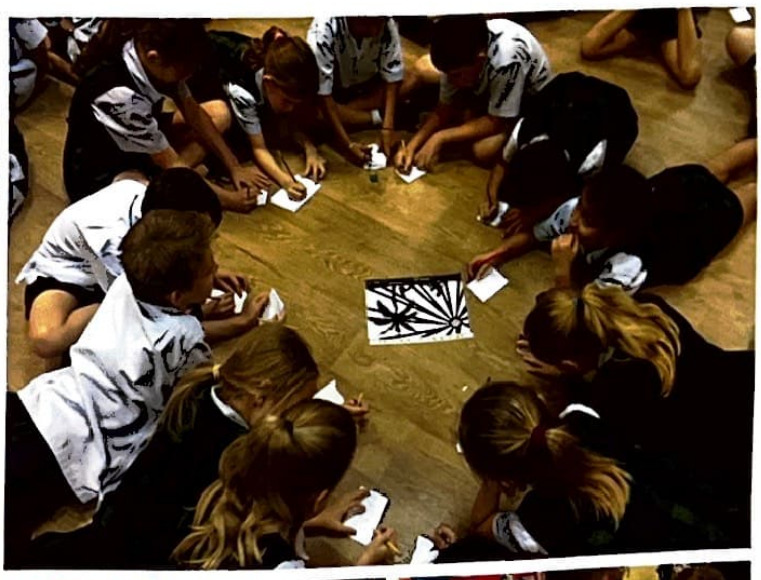
Emma

Juliet

Camille

Marko

Year 3 C

Nadine

Vivian

Diya

Ryan

Stijn

Archie

Tiago

Francisca

Vir

Aras

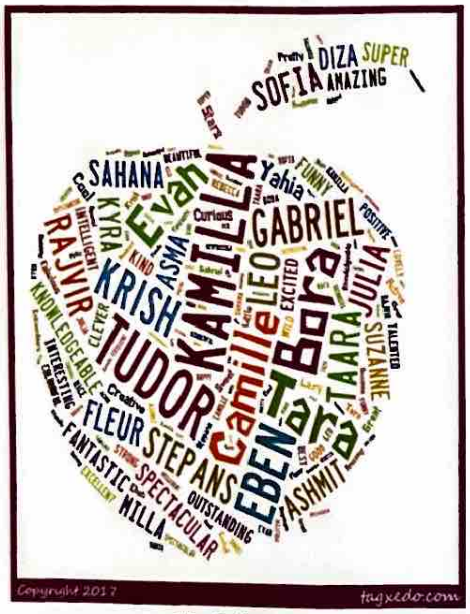
Noah

Riyad

Daniel

Hannah

Year 3 D



Ms. Rebecca

Ashmit

Kyra

Asma

Diza

Neo

Wafa

Yahia

Milla

Suzanne

Deniz

Kamilla

Bora

Tudor

Tara

Year 3 D

Camille

Eben

Krish

Evan

Gabriel

Leo

Taara

Rajvir

Stepans

Julia

Sofia

Fleur

Sahana

Year 3 E

What a BLAST! It has been an awarding year, the greatest being the progress made by each student as they showed to be truly Open Minded in gaining new Knowledge. The Year 3 CAMP was the highlight of the year followed by the students showing off their creative side in dressing up as their favourite book character. 3E has been hard at work, improving their cooperation, empathy and self-management skills while having fun in the Science Lab. Presenting the Archaeology facts about the UAE and bordering countries formed part of one of their proudest moments, as they made real connections to where they live, followed by being Risk Takers during their class assembly all about Matter.

Ms. Lirene

Anishka Zidan Teo Sarah Varsha Yasmine Eva

Umberto Kristin Marco Megha Samir Amira Naba

Year 3 E

Audrika Kosmas Samih Anna Alexander Will Olivia

Muhammad Samuel Dimitrios Maria Isla

Year 3 F

3F has had a fun-filled, jam-packed year!

From developing independence in many ways including taking part in the Year 3 Camp; making lots of new amazing friends; competing at Sports day; being a Risk-Taker and trying to solve maths challenges; showing off their creative side in dressing up as their favourite book character for World Book Day; learning how to write stories; to solving classroom crimes and being Inquirers when researching for archaeological facts about the UAE. Not forgetting being wonderful mentors to KG2D.

Our greatest achievements have been developing into confident, young people who are caring, respectful, independent and enthusiastic leaners.

Ms. Sara

Lilia

Vivaan

Aryan

Mayar

Matilda

Nicla

Jameel

Sibelle

Luana

Sally

Ethan

Nai

Year 3 F

Yehia

Tristan

Cecilie

Julian

Alizeh

Noura

Skyler

Ludovica

Storm

Aania

Hazuna

Ruben

Esmee

Elise

Year 3 Sleepover

What a night we had at the Year 3 Camp@DIA! For many of our little Risk-Takers it was the first time they had ever slept away from home, never mind in a tent! The children enjoyed a rotation of active games, a pajama dance party, and hot chocolate with marshmallows all before bedtime! This experience helped the children develop so many skills, including their independence, self-management and communication skills. The following morning, there were some very happy children, and some very exhausted teachers!

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PS ICT

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) at Dubai International Academy is committed to empowering "each student to achieve individual academic and holistic excellence" .

At each grade level, students demonstrate "the competencies and attitudes of a 21st Century Learner" in curricularly integrated, authentic, natural ways that allow students to personalize their learning with the help of technology-skilled educators. ICT Integrationists collaborate with core and specialist teachers to design, implement, and assess technology integrated learning opportunities that ensure students the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of grade level performance indicators. 21st Century Skills in the Primary School - ICT model is based upon the IB PYP Technology framework in which collaboratively developed integrated projects support PYP Units of Inquiry (UOI), Learner Profiles, and Transdisciplinary Skills.

This year we introduced PSICT Creators club with vision of lets create a creator rather than consumer.

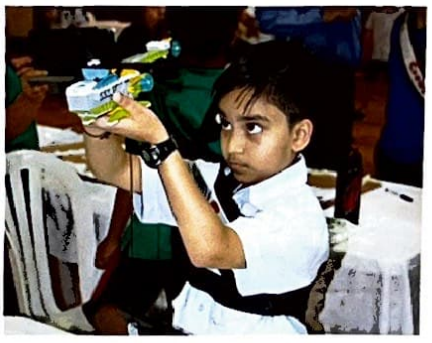
Brief of clubs :

1. Robotics Club: Year4,5,6 students learn how to connect Science, Mathematics and technology with design and create functional robots by using NXT and WEDO kits during CCA hours.
2. App Development Club: Year 5 and 6 students learning coding level 1 to develop their own creative apps.
3. Website Development Club: Year 5 and 6 are exploring different creative forms of templates of website development.

Few highlights of our PSICT:

- Hour of Code: our whole PSDIA Teachers and students participated in one hour of code worldwide event and appreciated by ICT star certificates.
- Robotics: our students participated in different robotic challenges event like First Lego League in UAE , Hackathon Flier and PSDIATECH creators club exhibition.
- App Development club group exhibit their creative apps design in exhibition.
- Website development club group exhibit their projects and creative templates forms in PSDIATECH.

PSICT Coordinator: **Ms. Shruti Rana**

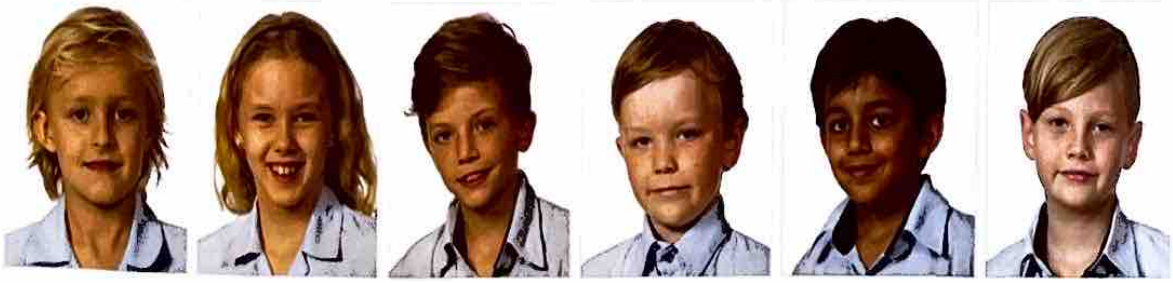


Year 4 A

4A students were excellent inquirers and thinker this year. They were enthusiastic learners who were always open to trying new learning styles. Students enjoyed taking ownership of their learning and showed they can do this by choosing a suitable learning area in our flexible seating classroom. The caring and tolerant students of 4A helped each other become more independent and committed to their work. Keep up the great work 4A. I am sure you will shine in Year 5 like you did in Year 4.

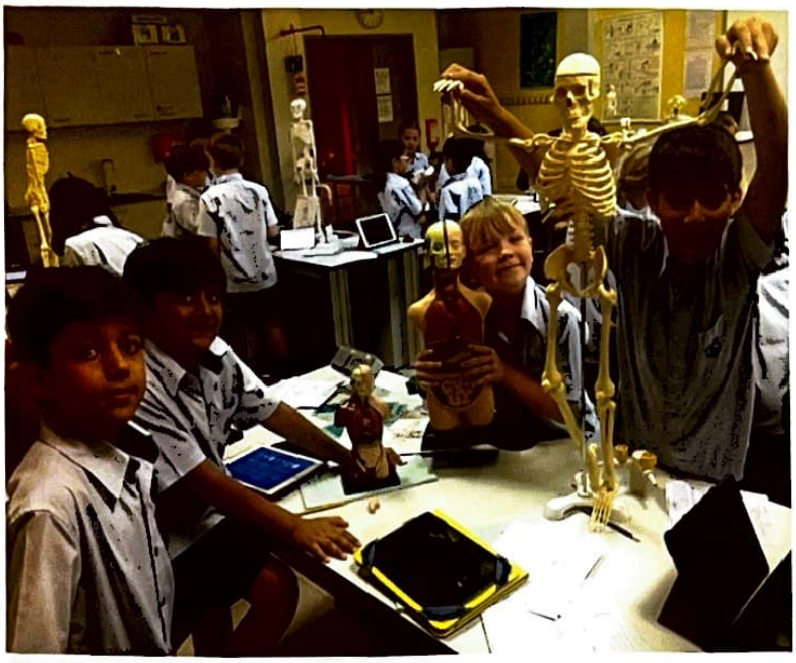
Ms. Sally

Alisar Sameen Ege Justin Leo Kristin



Tristan Olivia Tom Oskar Neel Thordur

Year 4 A



Victoria Come Mana Carlo Roxanne Hiya Mahnoor

Todor Rana Anthea Kaya Jake Agastya Maya

Year 4 B

When we reflect on the year that has passed we know we have grown, changed and learnt lots too. It has been rewarding to watch the children push themselves to reach targets and above all strive to work co-operatively and maintain an open mind. It has been a journey of exploration....from healthy body to planetary systems; from a business entrepreneur to the magical world of drama. I wish you well 4B. Believe in yourself, continue to spread joy and chase your dreams.

Ms. Anita

Aryan

Natalie

Jude

Sarah

George

Kallistie

Adham

Aaryan

Aarav

Arnav

Jani

Zaara

Year 4 B

Yara

Sarp

Kameel

Rishabh

Daphne

Arika

Erika

Anna

Marren

Devaditya

Mayon

Bruce

Jymy

Megan

Year 4 C

My dear 4c's

From space explorers to inventors, actors, screenplay writers, entrepreneurs, sustainability and health gurus, 4C had them all! We welcomed many new students to our school and they settled in nicely. We were all risk-takers when we went to camp in RAK. There we learned how to be team players and more importantly we learned about ourselves and what we personally were capable of achieving.

I wish you all a wonderful summer holiday and life full of learning and action. Remember an action doesn't have to be big to count. Every little thing we do to make a difference in this beautiful world of ours matters!

Ms. Heidi

Aarav Mustafa Sam Ben Nehir Benjamim Daniel

Phil Nikunj Saadiya Sarah Sufyan Karan Sam-Lion

Year 4 C

Maanya

Solena

Nadeem

Liam

Tia

Jacob

Jahan

Bianca

Marijn

Anna

Anni

Thalia

Year 4 D

Well survivors of 4D...

What a year! You have all shown your strengths and developments this year and you should be very proud! You started the year off as health and well-being coaches that advanced to business owners. From there you grew into astrophysicists and created planets that were ruled by the laws of the universe. Those of you that enjoy the arts, thrived at becoming actors and screen writers as the rest of us learnt to become a reflective critics. You developed into ecologist and recognised the importance we have on this planets future. Finally you were inventors and let loose those creative minds. Wow, this has been a very busy year!

We had a fantastic time on your first camp and I really got to see you folks in a different light, and hopefully you got to see me in one too. The comradery that has shone through was amazing.

I would like to sincerely wish you all a wonderful, safe summer holiday. Take the experiences you have gained this year and use them to move on with confidence and enthusiasm. Good luck and enjoy your learning, wherever you are!

Mr. Lewis

Nirvan

Omar

Dorothy

Yujin

Theo

Vadim

Eva

Gemma

Sophia

Adithya

Matthias

Gabriel

Marie

Mene

Year 4 D

Anaya

Airah

Sam

Liyana

Sabah

Aadhil

Julia

Hadrien

Asim

Nina

Alborz

Zohaib

Year 4 E

We have had a fun filled, action packed year in 4E this year. All students showed that they were excellent risk takers and good communicators as they all worked together and tried new activities during our Year 4 camp. Everyone had a very enjoyable time and many new friendship groups were made. In class we have participated in many practical activities. We had our Year 4 Market Day which was linked to our UOI unit on Money. Here we had to come up with a business plan and think of ways to advertise our business. We were very creative and came up with some excellent business ideas. More recently we have been learning all about Gravity, Mass and weight in our new science unit all about space. We were even able to design and make our very own planets. There were some excellent creations. Thanks for all the laughs and all your hard work this year. Have an enjoyable summer and all the best for Year 5.

Ms. Melissa

Saif Keara Sukhmani Adam Anouk Noah Noah

Eshani Ayaan Nora Gabriele Vivaan Adam Cherry

Year 4 E

Reo

Nikki

Paula

Maarten

Ole

Ibrahim

Lojine

Jaeyoon

Kane

Ayyaan

Hooria

Federico

Lea

Year 4 F

Wow what a great first year at DIA you have given me 4F and I hope that all the new students to DIA have felt as welcomed as I have!

You have shown that you can be Risk-Takers and amazing Communicators and Caring towards your peers and community. It has been amazing to see each and every one of you improve and grow as both a class and individual.

We have had some exciting educational trips – camp being the most memorable. I am so proud of everyone who climbed just one step higher, pushed themselves to get to the top or tried something new.

There have been a number of practical activities that we have participated in; we used Go-noodle and tried Yoga to keep fit and healthy. Had a Market day where we had to come up with our individual business plans and make money. Made our own new planet and presented it to parents and friends and created our own scripts and shows for our class assembly to name just a few.

Ms. Natika

Omar

Rami

Albie

Kanish

Adam

Loris

Othman

David

Ismail

Samarah

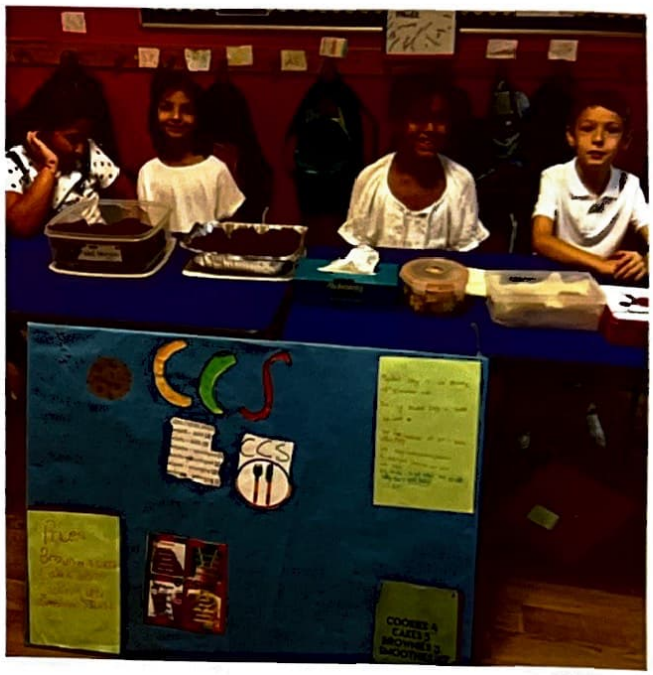
Zoe

Luka

Laura

Oskar

Year 4 F



Nabil

Girik

Olivia

Anam

Iman

Masha

Zoya

Niamh

Haya

Devraj

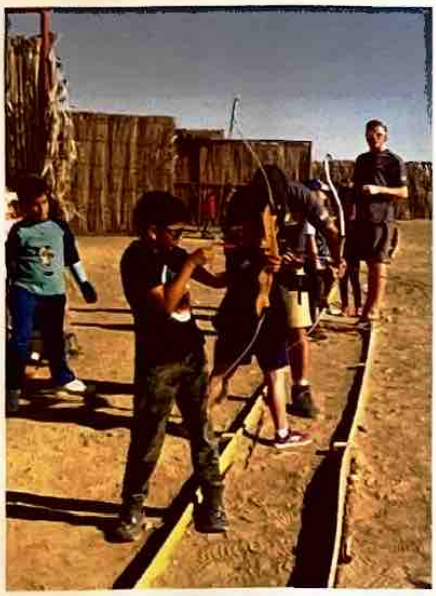
Cayleigh

Aanya

Lara

Kabir

YEAR 4 CAMP

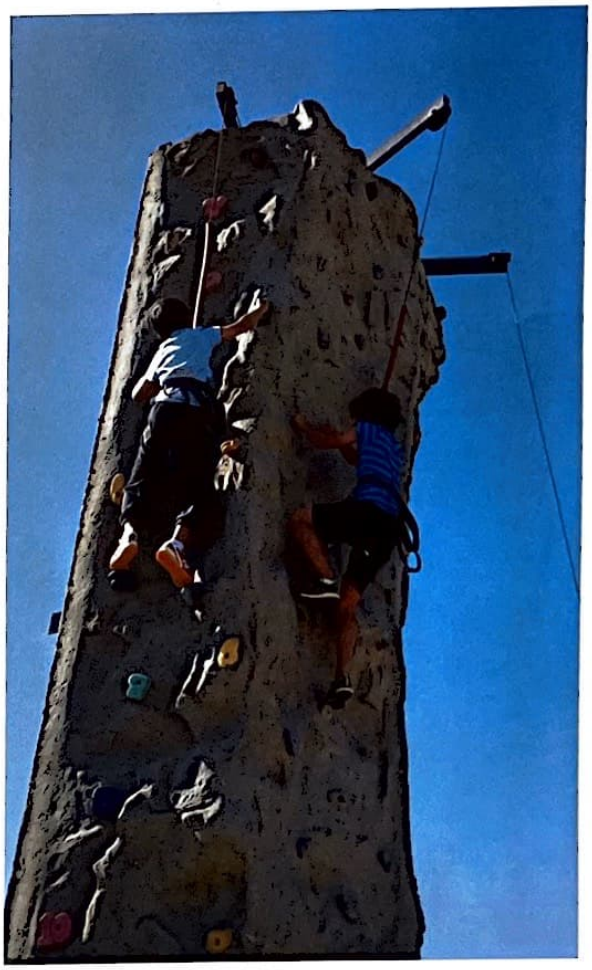


YEAR 4 CAMP

Year 4 Camp – Student Voice

Camp was great, the beds were really comfortable and the staff were unbelievable. The activities we did were so fun especially the orienteering. We had a lot of fun. Jake Weeman

As part of the Year 4 UOI subject, we went on camp to ADAPT, a camp site in RAK, in mid-February. It was a tiring two hour trip on the bus. Once we arrived we were handed our busy but fun schedule. There were so many exciting activities such as rock climbing, leap of faith, team work and many more. After trying so many things my favorite was rock climbing. I couldn't get to the top but some other students were very strong and climbed to the top of the wall. Alisar Adasi



PSC

The Social Committee of the Primary Student Council has been active through the academic year 2016-2017. They have organized activities, events and fund raisers for the primary school community. They have also taken the responsibility and modeled exemplary behaviour and attitude to the primary school community and helped students understand the importance of following school rules and being respectful.

Friendship day, Fun Day, Parking Notes and Al Noor Donation Drive have been amongst the more popular initiatives

Do not forget to come and see our lovely Caring Tree and Rainbow Photo Gallery outside the primary school office.

Our Primary School Members for the social committee are: Tom, Arika, Liam, Marie, Kane, Iman, Reyansh, Zara, Nivriti, Shaunak, Taara, Hira, Alexander, Samaira, Maya, Alexy.

Many thanks to Ms. Manuela and Ms. Sally for meeting with the Primary school Council members every Monday at lunchtime.

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Year 5 A

Our lives are made up of all the experiences that we have and the people that we meet along the way. I am blessed every year to have the pleasure of meeting twenty-six new children to spend my days with at school. The unique qualities of each student is a sure recipe for a successful year. It has been a treat to watch them grow socially, emotionally and academically. I am extremely proud of the students of Year 5 A.

Here are two quotes that I would like to share with you as you go to Year 6

Stay positive and happy. Work hard and don't give up hope. Be open to criticism and keep learning. Surround yourself with happy, warm and genuine people.

Ms. Tena Desae

We learned about honesty and integrity - that the truth matters... that you don't take shortcuts or play by your own set of rules... and success doesn't count unless you earn it fair and square.

Michelle Obama

Poem

We had a great year, with lots of cheer, And with no fear 5A is a great place to stay, We have great friends, And great times 5A is the place to stay, We've learnt a lot And it won't rot 5A is a great place to stay Electricity, Natural Disasters For Migration, did we receive an invitation? Media and more is what we are about With no single doubt, Year 5A is a great place to stay

By Bernardo and Sana

Mariam

Aayrah

Reyansh

Kirsten

Bernardo

Ryan

Fleur

Sana

Nora

Maria

Taylor

Anthony

Anmol

Ahmed

Year 5 A

Maya

Samaira

Ammaar

Leon

Shaurya

Hana

Mridini

Eric

Irtaza

Sofia

Conor

Natalia

Year 5 B

The start of the year was a scary one for all of us, new faces, new teacher and for some a new country! But as time has passed we grew closer and closer, coming together as a well-oiled machine, through our commitment and appreciation of each other. We have been on many learning adventures as well as building skills to help us work alongside each other, with respect and integrity. At the end of the day we can confidently say, we have made new friends for life.

Over the year each of you have bloomed like little flowers, new to the world, inquisitive and curious, always asking questions! Our days have turned to weeks and now it's time to say goodbye as you continue your journey onwards and upwards, but never forgetting the time we shared in 5B.

"The important thing is to never stop asking questions"

Albert Einstein

5B-riliant

We rule
We learn
Just like DIA school
Together we are brains
And we don't drool!
Making gain
Without the pain
Having fun just,
No need to run
Learning a ton
Ignoring the fools
And swimming in pools
Just being so cool!
Learning too much,
Just like robots,
Our brains are burning
Smarter than Bruce Wayne-I'm Batman
Ms Masuma is awesome
Blooming our brains, like a blossom,
Days are unique,
For way longer than fifty weeks!

Ryan & Stef 5B

Aryan

Mascha

Aryan

Aditya

Katie

Naomi

Anthony

Ali

Maya

Pauline

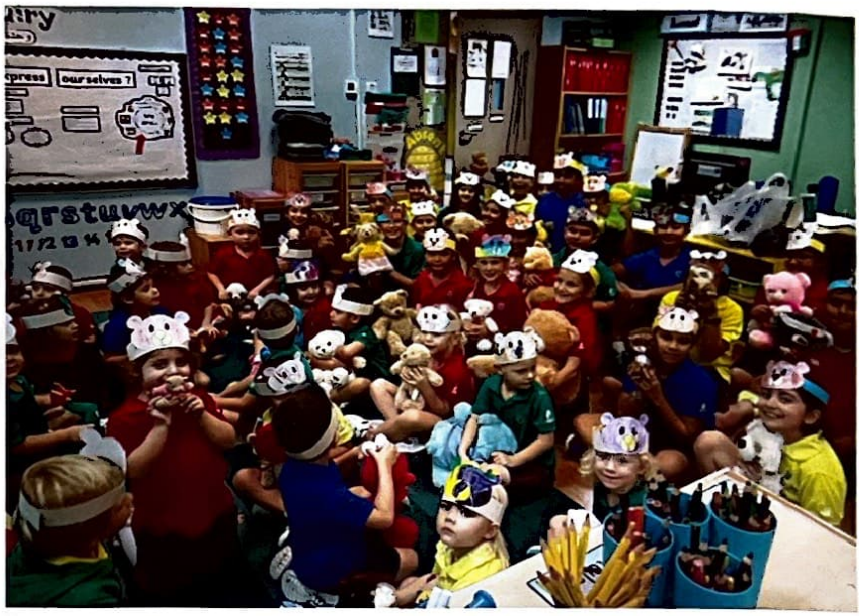
Katelyn

Anant

Sixtine

Riddhi

Year 5 B



Humza

Giorgio

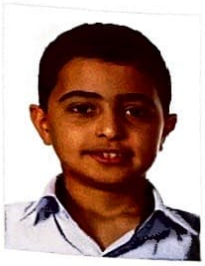
karttikeya

Sienna

Chloe

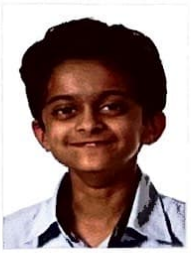
May

Ryan



Issa

Malcolm



Neeraj

Arishae

Hira

Stef

Karim

Year 5 C

"What a year we had in 5C! We had laughter, joy, fun, and on top of all this we have done an incredible amount of work. In 5C it was not so much about getting to the finish line, it was the journey we made to get there. Each and every pupil was part of our journey and contributed in a unique way. I am very proud of these pupils as they were such a caring, enthusiastic and knowledgeable class. With hard work I have no doubt they will all reach their Dream...."

Mr. Phillip Lydon

Historic Heer to Break Records as a Singer...	Super Shannon the Future of Netball...	Terrific Tristan the Tennis Star...
Athletic Aleix Playing For Barca...	Talented Tarun the next generation President...	Speedy Sacha Sprinting to Gold at the Olympics...
Zuperb' Zara the Leader to be....	Artsy Arabella performing the Arts of Acting...	Intelligent Ibtisam the Great Doctor...
Educated Ella the Legal Lawyer...	Spectacular Shaantanu sure to be a Cricket Star...	Terrific Tristan the Tennis Star...
Marvelous Maya the Gymnast to be...	Joyous Jasmine our Chef Extraordinaire...	Speedy Sacha Sprinting to Gold at the Olympics...
Fantastic Fiene the Fastest Runner...	Raging Ridhay the reasonable Businessman...	Intelligent Ibtisam the Great Doctor...
Musical Maggie the Next Big Thing...	Legendary Lucas a Future Basketball Star...	Rusty Rasmus the Paleontologist...
Amazing Atharv the Magical Magician...	Majestic Maryam as the greatest Archeologist...	Humorous Hashim the Paleontologist...
Scientific Shusei Showcasing the next Rocket to Mars...	Zoomy Zaya Scores another Home Run as a Baseballer...	Perfect Phillip the Perfect Teacher...
Joyful Jood Judging Crime as a Lawyer...	Successful Sara Sure to win as a Gymnast...	Magnificent Maj the Future of Art...
		Joking Johan the Comedian...

Zara

Aleix

Maryam

Maya

Atharv

Ridhay

Arabella

Jasmine

Jood

Magdalena

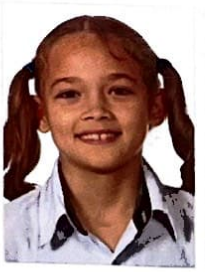
Hashim

Tristan

Year 5 C

Tarun

Lucas



Ella

Zaya

Shaantanu

Shannon

Rasmus

Shusei

Fiene

Heer

Maj

Sara

Sacha

Ibtisam

Year 5 D

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world" – Nelson Mandela

What an incredible journey for 5D this year. It has been my pleasure to get to know and work with such passionate and powerful students. Each as individuals, we entered a new journey together and throughout the year we developed ourselves academically, personally and socially; benefiting the class as whole. I have been amazed by so many fascinating personalities, who are well balanced, knowledgeable and consistently open-minded.

Our year 5 camp demonstrated such an amazing level of risk-takers and caring children that they are. The children exhibited curiosity through their in-depth questioning and consistently used their initiative to enhance their learning journey. Our Mini Exhibition displayed how creative and enthusiastic the children were in order to do their upmost best and communicate to others. It has been a pleasure to be part of the 5D's journey of Year 5 and I wish you all the success for Year 6.

"The expert at anything was once a beginner" – Helen Hayes

Ms. Louise

Adam

Jayden

Zhaojin

Sami

Emir

Jhilika

Marvin

Nivriti

Matthew

Olavi

Riya

Azam

Jessica

Jehan

Year 5 D

Carl

Oscar

Philipp

Amaury

Aaron

Augusta

Belle

Noora

Rose

Hannah

Soren

Dilani

Ibrahim

Trisha

Year 5 E

I can't believe another year has passed. How time flies when you are having fun! We have had an incredible year filled with so many fun filled activities. Year 5E have shown themselves to be such incredible inquirers and shown such enthusiasm in all that they do. I have loved watching our class shine in the Science lab, becoming real little scientists. The students worked with such tolerance and care with their KG1 buddies which was a pleasure to watch and have become wonderful researchers and communicators.

To 5E. I wish you all the luck in the world for year 6. Know that this year will hold you in good stead for the next. Have fun, always remain enthusiastic and never stop being eager to learn. Remember... no matter how you feel, get up, dress up, show up and NEVER give up.

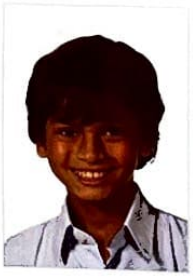
Yr 5E, the whole class is full of glee.
All the ladies filled with happiness.
All the gentlemen filled with classiness.
We keep it fab in the science lab.
We try to distinguish ourselves during English.
Discovering the path is what we do in Math.
We love our class, it's a blast.

By: Thuwaiba 5E

Sahib Serene Shaunak Zoe Agnes Kavhyn Lea

Faris Siddharth Anatole Emanuel Thuwaiba Aaryan Pietra

Year 5 E



Jacob

Ruhaan

Sofia

Mikel

Jude

Jaydeep

Krish

Chiara

Miray

Myiesha

Mauritz

Laura

Dana

Year 5 Camp

This year's camp was extremely extraordinary! We did brilliant acts of adventure and bravery for example the team building. We had to use team work to climb up planks of wood and every time they got higher and higher. We also did kayaking which was amazing to see all the wild life in the Mangroves. This year's camp was awesome!

Ammaar Khoda 5A

It was really fun and now after camp I have been more cooperative with others and I also learned about new creatures there. Camp was amazing and I can't wait until next year's camp.

Conor 5A

My favorite bit about camp was kayaking! I loved that we had fun even that it did not work and we were really bad and it, And because me and my group would spin round in circles but then we just tried again and again till an instructor came because we had been trying for 30 minutes

Fleur Deutekom

This year camp was one of my highlights as it was not only an extraordinary adventure but also a chance to meet new people and feel the nature, it is also an advantage to see how much fun you can have without technology. I loved when we had a chance to go kayaking in the green mangrove river. We had a campfire which was an absolute blast! I definitely am looking for camp next year.

Natalia Taworski

Camp was a great experience, I liked staying with friends and also going out for hikes in the blazing desert, inspecting tracks and finding animals and insects were a great experience!

Reyansh Airan

Year 5 Camp

Year 6 A

This was my third year at DIA and once again I have been pleasantly surprised by the ability of my students. Just when I think I have seen it all in teaching, a class comes along and bowls me over with their amazing attitudes and personalities.

Whether it was being risk takers on our overnight camping trip to Al Jeer or incredibly creative writing fascinating narrative stories, the class always gave 100%. We showed everyone how knowledgeable we were during our Bodyology and science fairs. Our Exhibition demonstrated how caring and open minded we are. There have been copious examples of balanced students taking part in sports teams as well as musical and theatrical performances.

We have had an incredible year full of learning and laughter. I am going to miss each and every student however I can look forward to hearing about their achievements in the future!

Best Wishes,

Mr. Lee

Sabiha

Youssef

Sharzeh

Ronojoy

Justus

Carson

Gabriella

Nanor

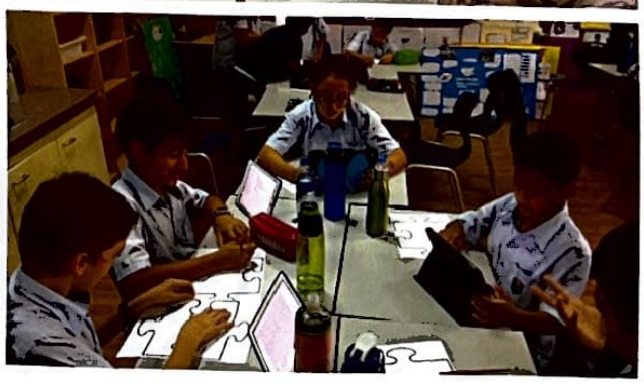
Shahab

Emanuele

Sahya

Usman

Year 6 A



Badria

Lilian

Frederik

Taara

Tanish

Anoushka

Loay

Louise

Nicolas

Alp

Bas

Jana

Haya

Rohit

Year 6 B

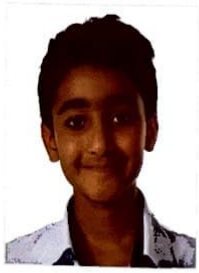
6B have led the way as independent inquirers this year in DIA. I have been suitably impressed with their desire to acquire new skills in language arts, maths and science.

The children began navigating their way through Year 6 with the Mapping unit. After this, they displayed team-playing group skills when carrying out effective experiments during their I'm a Scientist unit. The children dived deeper into Who We Are in the Bodyology unit and displayed genuine innovation with the associated models. The Year 6 Timeline continued (excuse the pun) as we transitioned (there's another) into The Exhibition unit. Indeed The Exhibition provided a platform for the students to showcase all the skills they have acquired throughout the primary school learning journey.

The students of 6B 2016-17 move on into secondary school ready for the next set of challenges which lie before them. I will miss them sincerely but look forward to hearing about their future achievements.

Kind regards,

Mr. Colm



Rashed

Maya

Alexander

Sham

Ashley

Araiz

Joseph

Ishaan

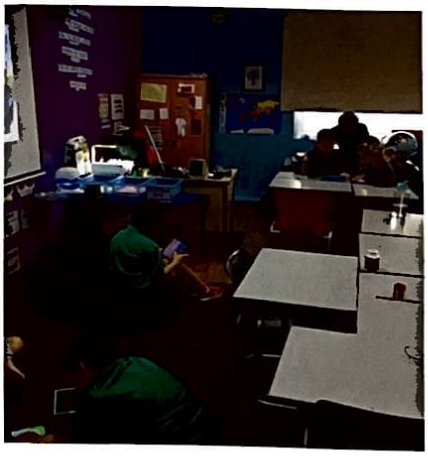
Yeon- woo

Sanika

Zain

Eva

Year 6 B



Eva

Kai

Lauren

Jaagat

Grace

Imaan

Mia

Louk

Timur

Lalie

Simran

Rayan

Ashton

Isis

Maxim

Year 6 C

It has been an amazing year in 6C, watching an incredible group of young people work tirelessly to improve and grow as individuals, and as a class. The kindness, consideration and maturity they showed each other and myself on a daily basis always impressed me. I learned a lot from them all, and enjoyed every minute of it.

Many laughs were had, as well as some sad times and thoughtful reflections and discussions. We had to say goodbye to Ayesha and Dakota, who moved on to exciting new places, but got to welcome Ella, who reenergised the class. We shared some fantastic stories, like Kensuke's Kingdom and Wonder, and delved deep into our units of inquiry, navigating around Zabeel Park, learning scientific procedures, exploring systems of the human body and how society changed over time, and taking action to make the world around us a better place.

We had some exciting times throughout the year: snorkeling at Ecoventures camp, dissecting hearts, dressing up for book week, selling goods at our market day, learning to code, playing the white elephant Christmas game, and conducting experiments at assembly. Many students had great successes too, from sports awards and performing in the musical and choir, to representing the school in the PSC and Eco-club and Ken-Ken competition.

It has been a blast getting to know 6C, and guiding them along on their path to adulthood, and I have the utmost respect and confidence in the directions they are heading. All the best for the future you crazy kids!

Best wishes,

Mr. David

Ali Ryan Zander Carsten Annora Aimy Mathias

Sophie Sebastian Anna Tara-Ea Jazib Daniyal Abhay

Year 6 C

Maya

Teagan

Ayesha

Usman

Yusuf

Frederik

Samaira

Dakota

Isabel

Netra

Kalle

Hreem

Rayan

Ella

Year 6 D

As their final year in Primary school comes to an end....

What a wonderful journey it has been in 6D. I have been lucky enough to have had the pleasure to watch these children grow academically and socially throughout the year.

We began our learning adventure in our Mapping unit. Children impressed me immensely with their inquiring minds and abundance of curiosity that shone through especially during the Zabeel Park school trip. These qualities as well as being caring friends to one another were particularly enhanced during our days spent at Ecoventure's camp.

From the Science Fair to the Bodyology Fair, the children's skills in Science were refined and demonstrated to such a high standard. 6D became impressive reflectors when they explored change over time during our Timeline unit and showed their risk-taking abilities throughout the Exhibition.

I can truly say that these children made my job easy. Their smiling faces that greeted me every morning, the laughs we had while preparing for assemblies to the in depth discussions we had on gratitude, our personal strengths and what makes us happy. I loved coming to work every day to spend time educating, listening and speaking to this superb pupils. Our year together is one that I will cherish and I hope they take happy memories, a love of learning and long lasting friendships with them.

It has been an amazing year and I wish you all the very best in your next chapter.

Ms. Doireann

Julia

Rashid

Aazam

Hana

Martin

Rayan

Naz

Brysen

Hamza

Layan

Faris

Jenna

Henri

Devraj

Year 6 D

Emma

Erik

Maya

Jaanak

Niharika

Maniskka

Isabella

Dia

Nora

Tiago

Zahra

Year 6 E

Oh, the Places You've Gone this year.

Each one of you have had an incredible journey of learning and progress, academically and personally. I have been so impressed with your motivation to learn not only in the classroom, but during class trips, performances and in your friendships. Your caring nature toward each other and insightful observations and questions as the year progressed made me smile on a daily basis.

There were a lot of memorable moments this year. In Unit 1, we navigated around Zabeel Park, crafted creative narratives, read and discussed Kensuke's Kingdom while settling into Year 6. We got to know our classmates better in Unit 2 where we snorkeled and learned about animal adaptations at camp. As scientists, we became Knowledgeable about the scientific method and how to analyze data by looking at multiple test trials to form conclusions. In a flash, we were already in Unit 3 where we continued to discuss friendships and being Principled while reading our new class novel, Rules. We dissected hearts and explored lungs, welcomed a guest speaker who taught us about different body systems, had puzzle piece debates and showcased our knowledge at the Bodyology fair. As the year wound down, we studied how society changes with time and began to officially reflect on ourselves as learners and team members. With Exhibition on the horizon, we geared up to use all of our strengths to work as a team to make a difference in our community.

I am so proud of all of your individual achievements, whether they were academic, athletic and arts achievements, personal growth or friendships. 6E has had a tremendously successful year. I wish you all the best; your futures are bright!

Best wishes

Ms. Heather

Kayla

Tia

Jens

Isaac

Garv

Nimit

Omar

Jana

Sarah

Axel

Sakshi

Mia

Year 6 E

Travis

Daksh

Xander

Yana

Talha

Krish

Emma

Greta

Ivans

Jacques

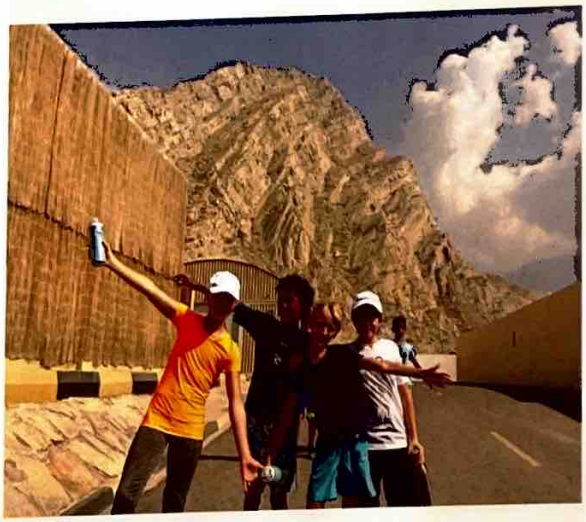
Aryan

Milla

Maia

Viola

YEAR 6 CAMP



YEAR 6 CAMP

Early morning on November 1st, 2016, the whole of year six were up early and prepared for an astonishing excursion - a journey to none other than Ecoventure in Al Jeer - for three days of adventures we would never forget! We were risk-takers, inquirers, and knowledgeable as we embarked on a journey of a lifetime.

We first arrived at the mangroves, where the plants were green and the water was full of sea life. During this adventure, we learned that many flora and fauna consider this habitat home. We licked salt off of leaves and ran around with little green nets and buckets searching for creatures. We studied the adaptations of all the creatures like tiny crabs as well as playing super fun games. After a tiring trip to the mangroves, we finally reached Al Jeer camp. We divided ourselves into groups of eight and finally received our cabins. The very same night, we had a massive campfire where we had marshmallows to roast. All of year 6 sat around a bonfire while the marshmallows burned. As the fire slowly died, we played a few games. The camp instructor told an extremely scary and eventually told everyone to go upstairs to sleep. Day one was completed.

The next day the activities began. One activity was to go outside to the main courtyard and look at the bones of deer, Oryx, and more local animals. We had to try identifying what animal the bones belonged to. We also studied local plankton under microscopes and tried to determine what type of plankton it was. Another activity was touching a large variety of exotic animals, such as tortoises, snakes, hedgehogs and many more! When all the activities were done we had some free time. Some of us spent our time in the cabin while others played games outside. Also some kids practice for the year 6 Ecoventure talent show! After dinner everyone sat on the field waiting to be amazed by some talent. There were comedy acts, dance acts, gymnastics acts and much more. The winner of the talent show was...Usman with his amazing gymnastics skills!

The next day, we headed off to dissect some slippery squid. We started snipping the squid, and we even got to remove the squid's eyes! We got to paint the squid ink on our faces. Straight after squid dissection, was an activity that was by far year six's favourite...snorkeling! We dove into to water with our life jackets and snorkels and swam on the surface, looking at all the marine life. We were risk-takers as we dodged the sea urchins lurking among the rocks.

All in all, the Year 6 2016 camp was a great learning experience and a lot of fun. All of the year 6 students who went took a lot away from it. Hopefully it's the last time we wear a squid head for an eye patch!

By Taara Kuriyan and **Sahya Jhutti**

YEAR 6 GRADUATION

YEAR 6 GRADUATION

YEAR 6 GRADUATION

YEAR 6 GRADUATION

YEAR 6 GRADUATION

Overseas Trips

Year 5 and 6 Trip to Borneo

It was an amazing trip! I mostly enjoyed the zip-lining and snorkeling as well as seeing the orangutans. I really recommend this trip to all the students as it is a big change from Dubai and very educational. The instructors are kind and caring and make the journey so enjoyable.

Sofia Stokes Year5A

We got to see all the wildlife in the rainforest! We stayed in different places which made the trip very interesting. We visited the Mari- Mari cultural village and learned about the thirty-two local tribes. The local market was great for shopping too. I loved the bright and colorful fish that we saw when we went snorkeling. I really loved Borneo!

Jhilika Deepak Year 5D

Borneo is a great experience for children. There are so many fun things to do there like zip-line, go on canopy walks and river cruises. We also helped the environment by planting trees and we met new people.

Karim Youssef Year 5B

We went to Borneo in our April holidays and had an amazing experience. We saw many interesting animals and learned all about the monkeys that live there. On our second last day we went to Gaya Island and snorkeled there. We saw the coral and colourful fish. On the last day we made local crafts which we could take home with us.

Ali El Ettr Year 5B

Overseas Trips

Ski Trip 2017

For the second year now, 20 children in years 5 and 6 travelled all the way to Switzerland for an Alpine skiing adventure. In February, Mr. Horne and Miss Nicola accompanied the children on a trip of a lifetime. With a maximum group size of 7, a fantastic instructor and perfect snow conditions, all of the children were able to make incredible progress. Those who started as complete beginners ended the week on the mountain skiing down daring blue pistes and those who were more experienced entered races and skied confidently down black runs. In addition to the skiing; the children had a chance to swim, ice skate and practice their French in the village (oh…and make plenty of snowmen!). On the last day we even managed to fit in a visit to the fabulous Cailler chocolate factory and a short shopping experience in Lausanne. It was a trip that will live long in the memories of all involved.

Year 6 Exhibition

Year 6 Exhibition...MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

This year we 'flipped' our approach and asked our community what they might see as issues we could inquire into. Parents and teachers shared many issues and our Year 6 students eagerly inquired into the ones they felt they could make a connection with.

It was 8 weeks of intense inquiry, where they researched...seeked expert advice...gathered info from all around...hosted workshops...raised awareness and TOOK ACTION! To celebrate their learning journey, they presented their new found knowledge to parents, students and schools in the commuinity at the annual PYPX.

Once again our students showed us that when they are passionate about something, they are keen to inquire and become knowledgeable about it all. Their confidence in communicating to all age groups highlighted why the PYP programme is such a success – Confident LIFE LONG LEARNERS who display a clear understanding of being internationally minded!

MESSAGE FROM THE **HEAD OF SECONDARY SCHOOL**

It is difficult to summarise my first year as Head of the Secondary School at DIA but it definitely has been the busiest, most demanding and most satisfying of years!

Much work goes on behind the scenes to ensure that learning and teaching in the Secondary School remains outstanding. Meetings, professional development sessions, observations, and monitoring all assure us that the quality of learning is of the highest calibre. It is the highlight of my day to go out into classrooms, to experience the learning opportunities offered to our students, and to see how teachers and students collaborate and engage to make the most of lessons. Our School Development Review in February verified our judgements and gave us the opportunity to reflect on what we can do to continue to develop and move forward. DIA is not a community which stands still but rather continually strives for improvements.

The variety of activities offered outside of the classroom is second to none. The sporting programme goes from strength to strength with students involved in competitions in school, across the Innoventures Group, and in the wider community. I have been amazed by the quality and level of competitive sports at these events and the dedication of the coaches who commit whole-heartedly to motivating their teams. The students support each other fully and team spirit and school pride is palpable at these events.

All schools have clubs and activities but very few have a number of clubs that are committed to making a real difference. DIAMUN, Water for Life, Roof over Heads and Business Minds are a few examples of students gaining skills for their own futures whilst considering and acting upon real global issues. At DIA, students have the option of taking initiative to start something new or to take up the baton from former students and see large events through to completion. The inaugural Business Minds Competition held at DIA was an example of students driving forward a new initiative to a successful completion which will be developed further next year. Students who ake opportunities to be part of such innovative and hallenging activities will leave DIA with skills, attributes nd attitudes that will serve them well for their place in a 1st century society.

An additional feature of philanthropic activities this year has been the introduction of a common aim in fundraising; all funds raised are now channelled towards our one common cause, the GIVE Foundation, working in conjunction with Dubai Cares. Through this fundraising our students can see the actual results of their efforts; eight of our Secondary School students travelled to Nepal in November with one of our teachers. During this life-changing experience students were able to live with the locals while experiencing everyday life in a challenging and unfamiliar setting. They had a chance to practise skills such as sewing and pottery but spent much of their time at the worksite, digging holes and laying the foundations for the first school. In their free time, the students were able to play sports and games with local students. In November 2017, there will be further opportunities to play a part in developing the next two schools for students across the group, including DIA Secondary School students.

As we draw to the end of this action-packed and fulfilling year, students are in full throes of preparation for external examinations. We wish both the MYP cohort and the Diploma Programme students every success in the examinations. Our thoughts are with our graduating class of 2017. We wish you happiness and fulfilment and look forward to hearing of your achievements and adventures at our next alumni gathering.

Thank you DIA, for an amazing year!

Jayne Needham

MESSAGE FROM THE **DEPUTY HEAD OF SECONDARY (PASTORAL)**

As we look back at this point on the course of the academic year, we can see that it is yet another year where Dubai International Academy has made considerable advances in the systems of care and support for our students as they reach their goals and realise their ambitions.

Clearly, distinctive advances of DIA are to be seen in how the school truly adopts the International Baccalaureate Learner Profile and puts the ideals of international education into daily practice. We can see this both in the list of successful school events held over the course of the academic year and also in the ongoing appreciation of visitors to the school. It is always a pleasure to hear from school visitors how impressed they are with seeing what a truly internationally cohesive school looks like in practice. DIA stands out as a beacon and an example of 'how things could be' for so many in the world today. Indeed, it could be noted that DIA's importance as an exemplary international educational institution has grown since its inception all those years ago.

Alongside this, through all of these achievements and activities, we always hold that there is one distinctive characteristic of DIA that allows us to rely on the support and participation of every student and member of staff in this school. That is the characteristic of deep respect and appreciation for the individual and the individual's own context. In this way, diversity in our school truly becomes expressed as the art of thinking independently together.

Robert Jennings

MESSAGE FROM THE **DEPUTY HEAD OF SECONDARY (LEARNING SYSTEMS)**

What an honour it is to serve as the Deputy Head – Learning Systems for one of the outstanding schools in the country! I am about to begin my 11th year with Dubai International Academy and have had the opportunity to experience many changes and events over the years. I am excited about the many challenges and opportunities that we will encounter together - TOGETHER being the operative word. I have no doubt that we can accomplish whatever we set our minds to if we work together as a team. As the saying goes, "It takes a village to raise a child." We, together as parents, school professionals, and our student(s), are in the perfect position to provide the greatest educational benefit for our students. This team effort will provide the foundation for their success in life. While there is no doubt that our dedicated staff, students and parents will have to maintain a laser-like focus on the task at hand, we will also balance our work with innovation and learning beyond the classroom.

Dubai International Academy has a unique community whose supportive environment and resources put its members at ease and ensure that no one is afraid to strive towards reaching his or her full potential. The community unites in this shared aspiration and as a result works hard to ensure DIA's continued tradition of excellence. There is no greater satisfaction than watching each and every student thrive. The high standards that we hold for everyone in our community provide goals to work towards and sources of pride time after time. We plan to provide a safe, productive, and memorable educational experience for the students and to be dedicated to do whatever it takes to succeed.

This year was a busy year with many new Learning Systems introduced for student usage. Learning Systems were integrated into every aspect of the curriculum that fostered intellectual achievement and allowed students to achieve their set targets. This included: a new student information system called iSAMS; a more robust reporting procedure; a student centric university application system called Bridge U. These enhanced data tracking systems provided a backbone to the school community. Outside of the classroom, the Week without Walls allowed the MYP students to take their learning out of the traditional classroom walls and served the purpose of making the students more international-minded and better global citizens.

We will strive to encourage our students to Dream, Inspire and Achieve.

Hitesh Bhagat

MESSAGE FROM THE **DEPUTY HEAD OF SECONDARY (ACADEMIC)** AND **MYP COORDINATOR**

This year, we have celebrated the achievements of the first DIA cohort to sit the innovative IBMYP e-Assessments who achieved well above world average in most of their subjects. DIA embraced the new assessment method where many schools watched on the sidelines. This has given our students a definite advantage and puts us in the forefront of IBMYP schools in the UAE.

When we talk about student achievements, we also need to focus on their strengths and passions outside the classroom. Through concerted efforts, they have gone on to win sports tournaments, give communicative performances, run business competitions and cared for those less well off than themselves within the community. As DIA continues to grow, so does its influence in the UAE and beyond. Hosting DIAMUN and helping to build schools in Nepal enables our students to grow into young adults with an acute awareness of cultural understanding and tolerance.

I have enjoyed the challenge of combining the role of Deputy Head and IBMYP Coordinator this year and am proud to be a part of the DIA community.

Stephanie Duarte

MESSAGE FROM THE **DP COORDINATOR**

What a fantastic opportunity it has been this year, to work alongside the Class of 2017. To have survived and excelled in such a busy school with its diverse multiculturalism is no easy feat but, without a shadow of doubt, you came out on top. This was evident through your commitment towards your studies, your various roles and responsibilities as prefect, house captain, DIAMUN chairs and delegates, and DIA sports representatives amongst a plethora of other things only an IB student can challenge and command so well. Each and every one of you has contributed to the success of this school and we are really proud of all your achievements. You have been put through the rigour of a demanding programme which has matured you both emotionally and socially and it is these IB skills that will serve you well throughout your life. I wish you the best in your future and promise me you'll always remember: "You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." A.A Milne.

It has also been a privilege to work alongside such committed and talented DIA staff members who have time and time again always put their students first, often going beyond the call of just academic duty. The one distinguishing feature that always shines through at DIA, is that through our diversity we embrace each other with support and care; we strive for the best possible outcomes for our students and we work hard towards the goals we set for ourselves. This school is remarkable in its drive to grow stronger each day and it is always looking to improve itself. I can't think of a better environment for children to prepare themselves to feel empowered, to think more critically, to question and seek answers, and to express themselves creatively. For me, that's truly outstanding.

Pam Parasram

SS Teachers Arabic / Islamic Education

Reda Al Ashmawey

Nasr Dweidari

Hasan Elewa

Ahmed Syed

Hesham Nazeer

SS Teachers English

Holli Robinson

Damayanti Rao

Hazel Morrison

Melissa Fitzgerald

Mallory Tomiuk

Lauren Brown

Pam Parasram

Rina Mehta

Claire Inglis

Brad Babock

Audrey Hurley

Adam Fitzgerald

Megan Russell

SS Teachers Language B

Etienne Kubler

Roberto Maldonado

Estefania Manas

Isabelle Philippe

Kemla Boudjemline

Maria Castelleno

Marie -Louise

Obdulio Fonseca

Anne Taylor

Rosanna Murillo

Zahra Bouguerba

SS Teachers Maths

Clare Wise

Gerhard Van der Wal

Asha Kumar

Barbara Stapleberg

Carina Saunders

Elriza Taljaard

Andrea Gallardo

Colin Leacy

Ladan Mohr

Saman Ahmad

Zehra Baig

SS Teachers Science

Ian Morrison

Barbara Timlin

Lawrence Kok

Marie Atkinson

Emma Collery

George Adel

Mithra Rennie-Daniels

Karl How

Maeve McKeogh

Philip Thompson

Risun Jager

Sarah Walsh

Sarah Siddiqi

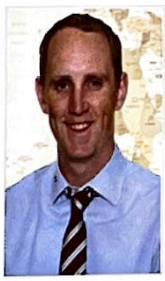
Shilpa Kantaria

SS Teachers Humanities

Narayani Saberi

Ciaran Mulhern

Bhawna Egbert


Sean Kelly

James Baird

Jeffrey Luce

Stephanie Mandy

Jane Keating

Mahrukh Sutaria

Reena Tikku

Robert Bunyan

Maeve Quigley

Susan Daniel

Marc Whitehead

SS Teachers Arts

Marianne O'Connell

Katrina Chung

Corinne Mawhinney

Dean Krawchuk

Rhonda Huisman

Karen Thompson

Stephanie Duarte

SS Teachers Technology

Vikas Singh

Ruba Jeshi

Pranjal Rai

Hitesh Bhagat

David Arulsamy

Shervin Bashar

Somya Jajor

Maryam Ferdosi

SS Student Counsellors and Support Staff

Rachana Sippy

Malin Erika Ehrman-Sylvander

Meena Nambiar

Saima Khan

Samrah Hamid

Giulia Buligan

Tine Kaalund

SS Teachers PE

Mihail Kouzev

Ciaran McBreen

Beata McCaffrey

Fiona Turnball

Ann-Alicia Free

Lea Jean

MYP Team

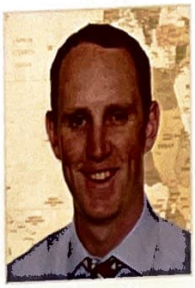
Stephanie Duarte

Melissa Fitzgerald

Hitesh Bhagat

DP Team

Pam Parasram


Sean Kelly

Karl How

Reena Tikku

Jeffrey Luce

SS Heads of Year

Sarah Walsh

Barbara Stapleberg

Fiona Turnball

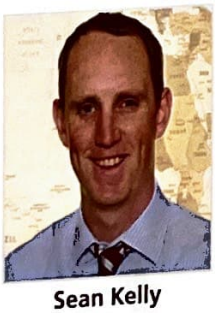
Adam Fitzgerald

Asha Kumar

Sean Kelly

Jeffrey Luce

TOK


Sean Kelly

Pratibha Rao

Robert Jennings

Damayanti Rao

Dean Krawchuk

Lauren Brown

Susan Daniel

Narayani Saberi

Marc Whitehead

Prefect and House Captain Investiture

Welcome, Prefects!

One of the incredible facets of student life that we have had the privilege of witnessing at DIA is the plethora of student leadership opportunities available to students of all backgrounds, interests and abilities. Student leadership in any school is vital because it allows the contributions of students not only to be heard, but to be made a reality. DIA further shows its value of these opportunities by promoting the mantra of student governance – "for the students, by the students".

On the 3rd of October, the student prefects, house captains and deputies were invested into their roles in an official ceremony to recognize and officiate their tenure for this academic year. The prefect body constitutes 36 adept student leaders from Year 13 who work closely together to operate as a bridge between the students, staff members, parent community and senior management team of DIA, ensuring the integration of everyone in the school environment. Their strong commitment to making the school a safe and happy environment also exemplifies the benefits of student leadership by enhancing the overall landscape of the learning environment.

The process of selecting prefects was very rigorous as the prefects had to complete an application form and an interview. Applicants were also shortlisted based on their academic achievements and completion of their CAS hours to ensure the position would not interfere with their DP coursework. Selected prefects were then given the chance to apply to be a part of the Head Team for which they had to complete another interview. Finally, the selected prefects were recognized in the Prefect Investiture Ceremony where they were presented with their badges and undertook the Oath, pledging to uphold the values expected of their roles as the senior-most form of student leadership at DIA.

Within our experiences as Head Boy and Head Girl of the Secondary School for the academic year 2016/17, we have seen the determination and persistence of the prefect body in taking the onus of enhancing the elements of our school lifestyles that make for a happy and productive learning environment. This year has also given rise to many new student-led initiatives such as the DP newsletter providing parents and students with DP deadlines and tips, and various events throughout the school year with the aim of raising school spirit more than ever before. We believe that the prefect body of the Class of 2017 represents the true essence of the DIA Wolf, and we encourage all upcoming DP students to get involved in this amazing leadership opportunity.

Marta Ortega and Allen Lopez, Year 13

DIA Student Council

"You can't lead anyone if you can't lead yourself" – Maxine Driscoll. We believe that each of us in the Student Council strive to live by this. DIA provides the unique opportunity to form an elected council and a core body to represent the student population. We — the Student Council members — are models to our peers; portraying commitment, maturity, responsibility and action. As part of the Student Council, all of us endeavour to make the school an even more fun and vibrant environment, by sharing ideas and working collaboratively. For ideas to be meaningful to the students, a strong bond with our respective homerooms is most essential, which we maintain through personal interactions, social media groups like Facebook and our newly introduced website.

These wonderful ideas are further polished every week at our meetings. Our flurries of discussions, debates and exchanges result in unimaginable solutions that we then need to shape into reality. The successful implementation of the best of these concepts — the SC Website, UAE National Day, Appreciation Month, Muftis, Bake Sales, Friendship Day — involve hours of dedicated planning, delegation and collaborative action e.g. proposals, decoration, advertising, event coordination, vendor discussions etc. — sometimes even after school hours.

As with any organization, there are some setbacks, but our sheer will, team spirit and collaboration, ensure that we get the work done, while balancing our academic commitments. Working with everyone in the Student Council is an exceptional learning experience. As John F. Kennedy rightly put it, "Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other". This journey has helped each of us in the council to become better leaders with excellent time-management, organization and collaboration skills. Through all our activities and commitments this year, we hope the Student Council has provided an unforgettable year to our DIA community.

Shreyas Raman - 11B
Deputy Head of Public Relations, DIA Senior Student Council

SS Language and Literature Department

Language & Literature

This year in Language & Literature we have continued to promote the importance of reading. Alongside our existing reading challenges, we launched the "Fall into a Book" campaign. This was in conjunction with the newly formed DIA Book Club whereby all students and teachers were encouraged to make reading recommendations to their peers that then formed the leaves of our reading tree – ready for picking by our avid student readers. Some excellent recommendations were made, and we hope it will be an even bigger success next year!

Students in Year 7-10 tried their hands at entering the Emirates Airline Festival of Literature creative writing and poetry competitions. The theme this year was "Journeys", and the wide, weird and wonderful interpretations and responses to the theme were true testament to the fact that the imagination knows no bounds! One of our students, Jessica Hughes won Second Prize in the Taleem Poetry Award for her poem detailing a friendship born out of troubling times that managed to weather the storm and prevail. In March, three of our students from Year 9 and 10 were invited to Raffles World Academy to recite their pieces at the annual Literary Soirée, a wonderful Innovents evening that promotes the talent and achievements of our students. We are determined to have even more entrants and representatives next year – let's see what the theme will be!

As mentioned before, the DIA Book Club was formed this year, and they have great plans to promote the importance of reading through a dedicated reading garden; space has already been allocated in the school, but furniture and comfortable seating is in short supply. If you're looking to redecorate this summer, we'd very much welcome any and all donations - please contact one of the English teachers.

SS Arabic Department

Al Jalila Field Trip

The Arabic A class, with Mr Reda Ashmawey, took a trip to Al Jalila Children's Cultural centre for the purpose of learning theatrical skills and further improving on our Arabic skills. The trip was really educational and fun as we were constantly learning and experiencing more things, but at the same time we were being entertained by it. We did an activity that taught us about the importance of imagination and how it plays a role in our lives. This activity encouraged us all to dig deeper within our imagination and create a short Arabic fictional story together, which ended up really inspiring many of us for our next assignment which was to write an original short story in Arabic. We also learnt about different types of imaginations: picture, hearing, and feeling imagination. We also did many other activities including where some of my peers were asked to act out a small imaginative scene. Two students were asked to be on their radio station and talk about quotations from Sheikh Zayed. We then did pottery, where we wrote our Arabic names in clay and also the word 'اللغة العربية' which means 'Arabic' or 'the Arabic language'. We ended by learning about some machines and techniques used to make pottery. Moreover, we all also got a chance to use a machine called 'the wheel', and attempted doing some basic pottery.

The centre was also very welcoming and treated us well. The trip should be continued for the Year 9 Arabic classes every year.

By: Salma Ashmawy, Zeina Fadel, & Aly Hamzawy.

SS Arabic Department

Arabic Day

March 9th 2017 - this was the day that the Year 9 students were, like every year before, entrusted with the noble task of spreading and promoting the Arabic language among the students of DIA. Arabic Language Day has been a tradition at Dubai International Academy for years. Originally created to bring awareness to the beauty of the Arabic language, it has grown into so much more. Arabic language Day was and continues to be one of the most beloved celebrations of DIA, but why? The answer is simple: it is planned by the students and for the students. Year 9 Arabic A and B students, with creative ideas and a deep love for the Arabic language, are brought together to brainstorm and create fun, interactive activities to encourage others to learn and enjoy the Arabic language. We here at the Arabic department believe that this year's annual Arabic Language Day was a success and we hope to continue to spread the beauty of the Arabic language for years to come.

SS Islamic Department

EMIRATES LITERATURE FESTIVAL

On Saturday the 4th of March, I received an award for a poem I had written in the Emirates Literature Festival. The Arabic poem I wrote reflected upon the scattered emotions of a person who had left their country due to unwanted reasons, specifically war. Winning the award, thanks to the encouragement of my teacher Mr Reda Al Ashmawey, made me feel very accomplished. It has inspired me to work on my writing and creative skills, and to do my best to motivate that same drive and feeling in fellow students and friends.

Zahra Bengdara - Year 12

It has been a pleasure to attend the awards ceremony for the Oxford Literature contest! It was hosted in Dubai at the InterContinental hotel in Festival City where all of the students (from schools and universities) attending came from all of the seven Emirates. The best part of the ceremony was discovering different cultures and expressing cultural identity through literature, as all of the participants came from different backgrounds and nationalities. There were different age groups for the English and Arabic competitions and once the English awards finished, the Arabic awards started to be given out. The prize of the competition was having your story published in an Oxford book of which 5 copies would be distributed to each student. In addition to this, having the opportunity to meet a well-known author (Rachel Hamilton) through an author's session was a truly enriching experience. However, the biggest prize of all was the ability to learn. If there were no mistakes, there would be no learning. I am grateful to my amazing teacher for helping me achieve this by guiding my understanding through the Arabic language!

Sana Hamdan, Year 10

Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, this time more intelligently.

Henry Ford

SS Islamic Department

Year 10 Arabic A Year of Giving Field Trip

For the year of Giving, the Year 10 Arabic A students took the initiative to volunteer at the Marmoom Equine Therapy Initiative, where they offered their assistance to the special needs children at the initiative. The students took part in activities such as gardening and watering plants, and harvesting them in the greenhouse located at the organization. Other activities the students participated in included cleaning the horse stables, as well as teaching the children their directions and supporting them during horse-riding.

The Arabic A students would like to thank Mr Reda Al Ashmawey for taking the initiative to take us on this enjoyable field trip in which we learnt a lot and still had fun! We would also like to thank Mrs. Needhan for approving our field trip to Al Marmoom Equine Therapy Initiative. This has taught our students to be grateful for what they have, and it also allowed us to use Arabic skills which were taught in prior lessons.

Yara Bengdara and Habiba El Ezaby Year 10

SS Language Acquisition Department

French

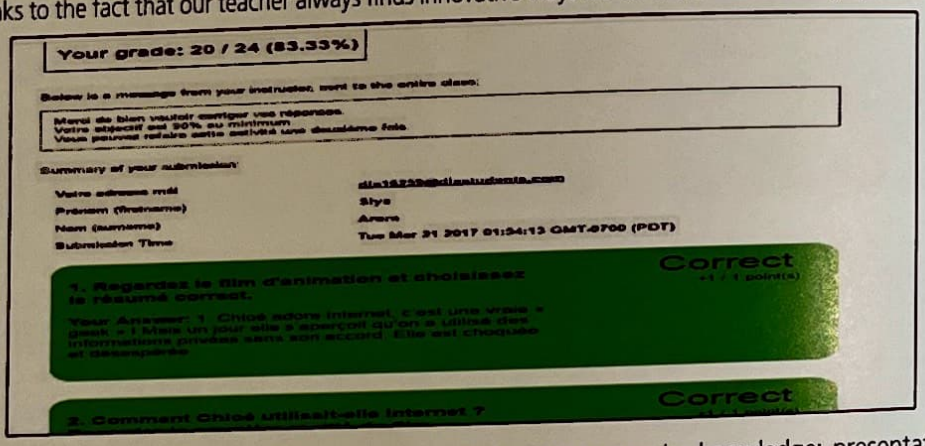
Fun in French – Siya Arora (Year 10)

Year 10 MYP French has become one of my favourite subjects since the start of the year. Over these few months, I feel I've improved very much in this language. The learning pattern is unique compared to my old school. We listen to a lot of audios and watch a lot of videos and I really think this helps us prepare for the next few years as we get familiar with the language without relying on subtitles.

The unit about 'séjour linguistique' was a very interesting unit for us. After learning this unit I realized how much I would love to travel to France one day to study French over the summer holidays. We had a discussion in class about this and my entire class said that they would be very interested in learning more about the French culture and the language in the country itself. Another unit we covered was about our school life and we compared the learning system in our school to that in France. Our teacher, sent us many videos related to this topic and we really got an insight to how school life is for students living in France or other European countries.

The atmosphere in our class is always vibrant and positive. Our teacher always tries to minimize the amount of English we speak in class because he wants us to be able to speak fluently. We have posters all around our class which have the everyday sentences we use in French so we have gotten very familiar with these. This year, one of our biggest sources of practice were the quizzes. For every unit we have had loads of online quizzes to test how familiar we are with the unit and when we get our results, we have the opportunity to improve and not make the same mistakes. Personally, this has been a great help for me and has really helped me evolve as a French student.

French this year has been a lot of fun for all of us and I believe we all have the capability to do well in the future in this subject thanks to the fact that our teacher always finds innovative ways for us to learn and always pushes us forward.



My experience in MYP French

Reflecting upon my experience this year I believe it's safe to say that I was bestowed with the pleasure of studying French like I never did before at DIA. With no disparity to students, the teaching is exceptional; each lesson would have its own uniqueness in its way of delivering knowledge, which enhanced the interaction and enthusiasm of the class.

My journey commenced during the course of the French aptitude test in DIA: I came across a question in which I was instructed to describe a summer holiday, in French. Looking back, this question seems easy, however, when I began I encountered struggles with a question as simple as this. Now, as we have completed the final exam, I faced the converse problem of staying within the maximum count of the word limit. What are the odds? My progression is thanks to the intense coursework and support resources provided to us by our subject leader, Mr Kubler. Over the past year we have used an array of techniques to acquire knowledge: presentations, group assignments, posters, doing quizzes, making quizzes, past papers, videos, interactive games, resource materials, exercise books, puzzles, reading, communicating etc.

One more factor that played an impactful role was the way in which we were arranged. We were grouped into mixed abilities which was done in order for us to familiarize ourselves with the existing knowledge of our peers. We benefited from this as by teaching one another we deepened our understanding of the subject. The best part about French lessons was when we played interactive games such as 'Jacques a dit', which is the French version of Simon says. There were so many other ways that we incorporated fun in our learning, which broadened my interest for the subject.

I look forward to pursuing French in the future. As they say in France: Le monde est un livre ne chaque pas nous ouvre une page.

Sarah Amer, year 11, foundation course.

SS Language Acquisition Department

Spanish

Field trip to Maria Bonita

Year 8 and 9 Spanish

On the 20th and 21st of March 2017, the Year 8 and 9 Spanish students went on an exciting field trip to a Latin restaurant called Maria Bonita. Here students had the opportunity to put into practice their language skills and practise their Spanish by ordering food.

The students were very excited to sample authentic Mexican food. They had a nice platter with a variety of delicacies including nachos with salsa, guacamole, cheesy nachos, quesadillas, burritos and taquitos. For dessert, they had some delicious churros with dulce de leche.

Some students had the amazing opportunity to make their own guacamole, which was fun and exciting for everyone. A student volunteered from each table to prepare their own delicious guacamole for their friends. Then they got a serving of salsa and nachos to enjoy with their guacamole.

Students' testimonials:

"When we arrived at the restaurant we sat down and talked until the waiters served our drinks and food. I made home-made guacamole in the restaurant, which was interesting. I never knew fresh lime and lemon juice were in guacamole. All my friends said I was good at making guacamole."

Cornelia Broman, Year 8

I loved going to the restaurant. It was quite a unique experience as I haven't done something like this before.

It was really fun as I tried my Spanish with the waiters. I enjoyed speaking Spanish with them. My favourite part of the whole experience was to be able to eat outside of

school, and having fun with Mexican hats. I would love to do this again! This was an amazing experience and the food was fantastic!

Shriangi Gupta, Year 8

The whole experience was amazing and at the end we got to wear the traditional Mexican hat, the Sombrero. What was really cool was that we learned a lot of Spanish as we talked to the waiters in Spanish to ask them for refills and food.

Neel Amarnani, Year 9

The decoration of the restaurant was super nice and "Mexican looking". They also had sombreros available to wear and take photos with. We learned a lot about Mexican food and how to make it. Overall, it was a great experience and I look forward to visiting the restaurant again.

Daniel Alves, Year 9

Through this field trip we were integrated into the Latin culture and were also able to practise our previously learnt Spanish vocabulary. Being educated about the culture and traditions of Spanish speaking countries are just as important as the language. The full experience of the food, waiters and atmosphere was brilliant.

Ana McLernon, Year 9

SS Individuals & Societies

Bizz Plan

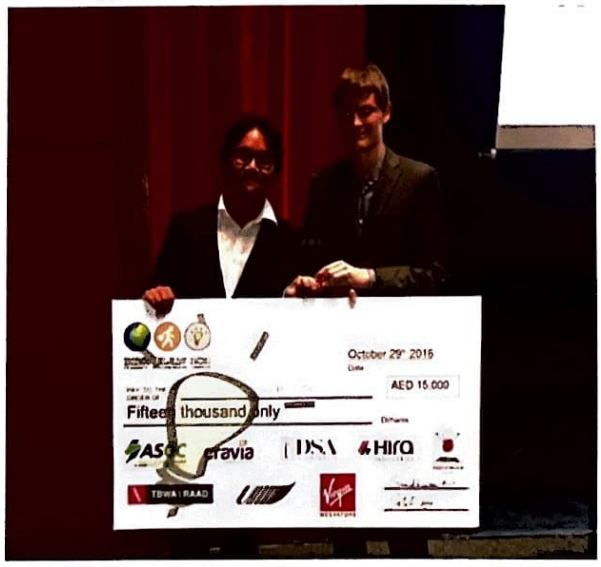
Participating in the Bizzplan 101 competition was one of the most academically challenging yet rewarding experiences either of us have had in our lives.

We were overjoyed when we first saw the competition in the summer as it allowed us to take advantages of our respective skills in Design and Business. We were eager to do something truly productive that could not only win us huge prizes but also teach us valuable lessons for our future careers. We designed an innovative product we called 'AeroCig' and created a full and comprehensive business plan based around that product. We were lucky enough to be shortlisted as one of the top 10 teams out of over 100 submissions and because of that we were invited to the final at Dubai College. There we presented to a full auditorium featuring experienced and successful business people with some serving as the judges for the event. We received excellent feedback from the judges and were satisfied that we had done a good job. Once all presentations were completed, we were extremely proud and honoured to be awarded 15,000 dirhams and a trophy for our efforts.

The Bizzplan 101 competition was a great experience and I would absolutely encourage many more DIA students to participate not only for the monetary prize that can come along with successful participation, but more for all the knowledge there is to be gained. This can be applied to the many other entrepreneurship events that are presented in the UAE and around the world as well as to illustrious careers in the future.

Team AeroCig,

Carl Vinter and Braeden Bihag, Year 11



SS Individuals & Societies

Geography

Students at DIA often ask, "What is DP Geography all about?" The answer to that, by definition, is the study of the physical features of the earth and its atmosphere, and of human activity as it affects and is affected by these, including the distribution of populations and resources and political and economic activities.

The definition above proves exactly what goes on in the Geography course. By studying Geography this year we have truly come to understand the reason the world is what it is today. We have become experts on topics such as the reason hurricanes occur; the value of certain landforms, how the global water systems function, and many other fascinating areas of study. If that doesn't interest one enough, the other half of the syllabus focuses on human Geography This involves interesting areas of study such as the consequences of migration, tourism's effect on the economy, overpopulation and other human geography-related concepts.

Perhaps what is most important is that once one becomes an expert in the study of Geography, he/she is then able to apply this knowledge to everyday life. This year Geography classes involved many fun methods of learning such as interactive lessons as well as field work to mangroves. Here, we were really able to apply our study knowledge to real life situations. The vast majority of work done was in an enjoyable environment, and I can say that my favourite aspect of the subject is that it involves every single possible human and natural science, ranging from politics to economics.

Elias Farah, Year 12

Individuals and Societies is one of the subjects which I am most passionate about. The course in Year 9 consists of History, Geography and Economics. Throughout all the subjects I have attained a lot of new knowledge and better understanding of how the world works; our ancestors; and our environmental surroundings.

In History we learnt about Islamic and Subcontinental Asian Empires such as the Ottomans, Safavids, Mughals and Mongols. We also gained a good understanding of some historic superpowers such as Genghis Khan and Akbar. We were challenged by sharing biased opinions. We also had to analyse the reliability of sources and distinguish between extracts. A key element of Individual and Societies, especially in Year 9, that challenged us the most was answering questions specific to the provided command terms. These forced us to use higher order thinking skills that would help us in being clear and concise with our responses.

Our Geography unit focused on volcanoes, earthquakes and tectonic activity. We evaluated the causes, effects and responses by both HIC and LIC countries to these disasters. Additionally, we learnt the causes and structure of the various volcano types. We were also introduced to the three P's: Prediction, Preparedness and Protection. We learnt the various methods of preparing for an earthquake and we applied this to real life based on how real earthquakes were dealt with around the world.

In my opinion, I particularly enjoyed the Economics unit as it was a subject newly introduced to us. We learnt all about macro-economics and how governments and the market dictate the process of decision making depending on the type of economy. We learnt the basic laws of demand and supply, and we were challenged by plotting equilibrium graphs and demand shifts. During this unit we had to collaborate with our group members to produce an informative poster about small and medium enterprises, and we exchanged posters with peers in our class who answered the questions we gave them. This proved how easily interpretable and clear our information was.

Throughout this year in I&S I really enjoyed gaining new knowledge and challenging myself by enhancing my skills and achieving my targets. During class, we are given activities that allow us to share and develop our ideas, interact with our peers and have discussions as a class. This makes it more enjoyable. I also like the teaching style and how we are able to work in pairs and groups which often help us widen our knowledge. Throughout the course of this year, we learnt a lot and I am really excited about continuing with this subject next year.

Aditi Jayachandran, Year 9

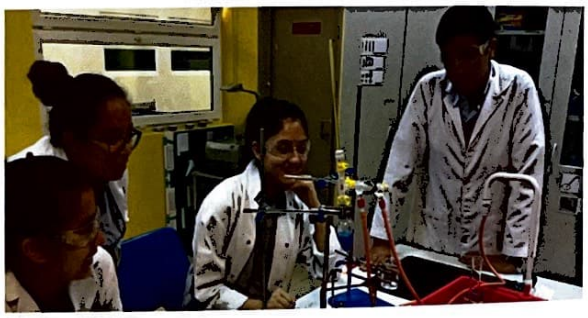
SS Sciences

August 2016 saw the advent of eight new teachers to the department, including a whole new team for Diploma Programme Physics. We were fortunate to be able to welcome some very experienced, knowledgeable teachers and they soon settled to become part of a very harmonious and supportive team. Far more practical work is being conducted at all levels, and we were lucky to be able to get more help for our very hardworking laboratory support team.

The first major event of the year was the Innoventures Year 7 Science Fair which gave our students a chance to compete with the best from the other schools in the Innoventures family. Our students were great ambassadors for the school and were able to discuss their projects in depth. One of our teams was narrowly beaten into second place by a group from RWC.

Year 11 faced their mock examinations in December and the first opportunity to assay an e-assessment examination. The experience gave the students the chance to discover how best to prepare for the examinations in May. The teaching staff also learned a lot and immediately started fine tuning lessons to help bring greater success.

Suddenly, it seemed, we were in January and preparing for the Year 8 Science Fair. The whole year group was able to investigate an area of Science of their choice. The competition was fierce.

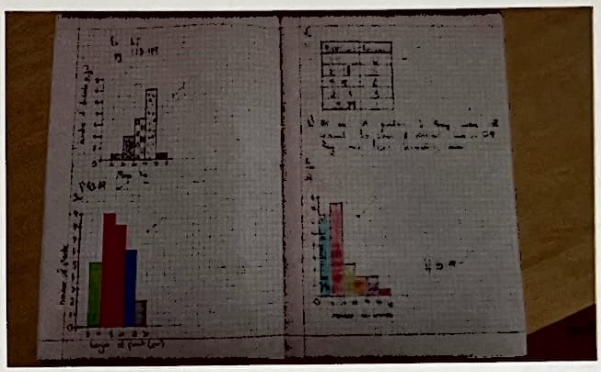


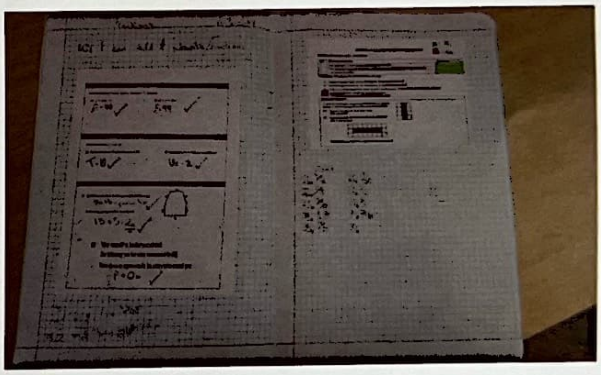
SS Mathematics

Overview:

This academic year has provided the Mathematics department with wonderful challenges as our teachers have taken the initiative to engage in more student-led learning. Two of our staff members in the Mathematics department participated in IB workshops – Ms Carina Saunders participated in the HL Category 2 workshop and Mr Colin Leacy participated in the MYP Category 2 workshop. Their findings and expertise is reflected in our department and as a team, we are striving to improve our students' learning. In addition, there have been Mathematics Olympiads that was organized by Mrs Asha Kumar, and the students thoroughly enjoyed the trip to Germany.

Student testimonials





Benjamin (Year 10):

I am quite impressed with the quality of the mathematics department this year. I can say, without a doubt, the years that I was in this maths class were definitely my best maths years. I believe that the level of difficulty in the class work is spot on in terms of my level of knowledge, because although I am challenged by the work, it does not go over my head that much. The teachers in the maths department are very helpful and are always willing to help in their free hours (which is much appreciated).

Reagan (Year 10):

Due to my recent enrolment in Dubai International School, I have had several troubles in the math department. My previous school did not cover the mathematical units which we covered this pass year in DIA. I was falling behind, as I did not have the mathematical skills needed to understand, or the essential basics required to follow the class. Disregarding this, I was able to catch up with my teachers' extra explanations, and with the support of my classmates. I have been able to raise my grade from an initial 3 in semester 1 to a standing 5 in semester 2. I have found that the mathematical teaching strategies at Dubai International School are superb. The teachers do not only provide good learning materials, but also their support. Without this I would not be where I am today feeling comfortable in mathematics, and confident in my upcoming tests.

Gaurav (Year 12)

I think math has been an eventful experience for me. There have been ups and downs, but I have managed to get the grade that I have desired. It is also important to have a good teacher, hence Ms Wise's guidance has helped me tackle tough situations. In the future, I am hoping that this guidance aids me in getting my final IB grade.

Teacher testimonials

Colin

My first year at DIA has been both challenging and rewarding. The motivation levels of the students here are really inspirational and need to be met with a variety of teaching methodologies which provide support, pace, activity and challenge. In January, DIA enrolled me in the MYP Category 2 Mathematics Workshop which has successfully allowed me to support the effective implementation and delivery of the MYP Mathematics Curriculum across the four criterion. MYP Mathematics at DIA provides students with an incredibly strong foundation in order to develop their skills, progress to DP level and prosper in their future careers.

Carina

In October I completed an Online DP HL Math Category 2 workshop. This was a chance to look at the HL syllabus with regards to the Internal Assessment element and the various options that can be offered. It also provided an opportunity to share resources from across the world with my peers.

SS Arts

Drama

The Ensemble Experience in London, Baby

My Theatre Arts class and I went on a trip to London from the 6th – 13th of October. I can easily say that this trip was the most beneficial trip of my life. I met some amazing people and I truly feel like I grew and learnt so much in such a short span of time.

We spent the first few days exploring the city and watching live performances of plays such as "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" and "The Comedy

about a Bank Robbery", which gave me great insight into how different staging styles work and helped me understand so many aspects of my theatre course better. It was also highly motivating for me to see the amount of work London productions regularly put into their performances.

During our last few days in London, we were enrolled in the Programme for London (2) TaPs ISTA workshop. The amount I learnt in those memorable three days was unbelievable. I worked within a closed ensemble of peers who shared the same interests as me, which made my time at TaPs truly enjoyable. The fact that I was able to connect, communicate and collaborate so well with my peers even though we all came from entirely different backgrounds, greatly increased my appreciation of diversity.

We had a master class every day as part of the programme, and in each class we learnt different types of theatrical works and techniques such as 'Complicite' and 'Mime'. For me, the 'Complicite' style was very interesting to

adapt to because of its physical training and its aim of working in teams to create something fascinating and different. I worked along with my peers by mixing both visual and aural language into our pieces, and was able to concentrate on my body movements and enhance my stage presence. This helped me grow as a person and feel more confident with my ideas and "break out of my bubble", as my ensemble leader would say.

Having completed the ISTA programme, I feel very confident about my theatre course. TaPs and this trip made me feel very independent and empowered. I was able to take the skills I learnt and observed and use them in my daily life. My experience in London was very fulfilling and rewarding.

By Sara Abdallah, 13 B

The Servant of Two Masters

On the 28th and 29th of November, the DIA Theatre Department held its own rendition of the classic comedy The Servant of Two Masters. It is a story of a servant who finds himself trapped in his deceit and must convince two separate masters that he is only their servant. Through this tale of confusion and trickery, the protagonist is also able to find love, leading him to a happy ending. The audience was filled with laughter and cheer at the not-so-

witty attempts of the protagonist to avoid trouble, and the idealistic yet powerful and independent female maid

who simply told it like it is. Despite the entertainment that was provided that night, the audience was able to see a mere fraction of the hard work and fun that was evident as a result of the three months of rehearsal prior to the performance.

The cast was comprised of students from Year 8 through to Year 13, including: Aaron Lopez, Alma Khalaf, Daniel Giesemann, Kyle Hiramaneck, Hana Okasha, Marina Snyder, Neel Amarnani, Siya Arora, Alexandra Ameye, Aristia Louka, Mohamed Ismail, Sophia Simoni, and stage manager Marta Ortega. After undergoing an audition process to be selected for their parts, the actors worked hard through weekly rehearsals to perfect their parts. While rehearsals at times could be tiring or frustrating when something just wasn't working out, they were also full of laughter and learning as the actors all helped build each other's confidence and improve their skills. Most importantly, there was an incredible sense of support and teamwork that was expressed through the actors' enthusiasm and chemistry on stage.

Overall, it was an amazing experience which allowed us to learn new skills and make friendships that would last long after curtains down. None of this would have been possible without the hard work and encouragement of our directors. The cast was very proud of their accomplishments, and it was a performance they won't easily forget.

On November 25th, Courtyard Playhouse was full of energy as they hosted their 4th Inter-Schools Theatre-Sports Tournament.

This season DIA had two teams registered in the Junior Tournament – Mushroom Cup, represented by Alexandra Ameye, Andrew Ffrench, Divyanshi Gupta, Manya Jain, Ana Mclernon, Sophia Simoni, and Marina Snyder. This group trained for 6 weeks leading up to the competition, staying after school and building the skills required for the competition. 16 teams competed for the top prize this season, and DIA's teams came in 4th and 2nd place! Well done!

Music

DIA Performance at DFC Fringe Stage – Achyuth Nishant

Talented musicians and instrumentalists from MeloDIA along with Year 10 music students showed off their talent on the Fringe Stage in DFC on the 11th of March. With a total of 8 performances, there was no chance of not being attracted to the voices of the amazing students performing!

The beautiful voices were enhanced thanks to Ms Karen's

strenuous efforts. Diverse, a group led by Siya Arora, won the hearts of the audience. The next set of brilliant

musicians was a brother and sister duo, consisting of Kavyaa Modak on vocals and Varun playing the guitar. They both worked so seamlessly together, Varun being an

expert with the guitar and Kavyaa with a large range of vocal notes. With their combined talent, they performed 'Riptide/Ho Hey' by Vance Joy/The Lumineers and 'You and I' by Celine Dion.

The entire group, all wearing matching red t-shirts with their names on the back, performed an original composition written by Ms Karen, named 'My Magical Connection with Earth' which is dedicated to create world peace and fits perfectly with the DIAMUN theme. With their 'angel-like' voices, they were able to capture the attention of the audience and spread the message. A wonderful composition by Ms Karen!

Finally, the Year 10s ended the performances with 2 more songs: 'Sofia', a Spanish song by Alvaro Soler and 'Boulevard of Broken Dreams'. The band consisted of 14 members: 5 vocalists, 1 pianist, 2 drummers and the rest on guitars. The huge band perfected their songs which led to a great applause from the audience and hosts on stage.

It was a great evening for the performers who successfully performed to the public. A special thanks to the hosts of the show; performers for their efforts; the audience for their motivation; and last but not least, Ms Karen for the time she spent prepping the performers to do their best on the stage!

Visual Art

This year the DIA Art students have been busy working on a variety of exciting topics ranging from 'food in art' to 'different cultures' and 'creating Art for a purpose'.

Year 7 spent the year exploring the Elements of Art: line; colour; texture; tone; shape; space and form, through the lens of food. Looking at food all year made some of us very hungry at times but even with rumbling stomachs, the students developed excellent skills. Students learnt how to create observational drawing use tonal shading; colour blending; grid method; linear drawing; photorealism; and collage work. They also explored a variety of artists who have been inspired by food and, in pairs, created an artist box to show their new knowledge and understanding.

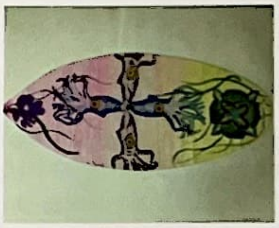
SS Arts

In Year 8, students explored large-scale 2D design while expanding their technical skill base. Students underwent a surfboard-themed project that concluded with each individual pupil creating their own unique surfboard final design. The learning throughout the project enabled all students to experiment with a wide variety of both wet and dry materials. Initially, students investigated imagery associated with coastal environments to produce interesting observational drawings. Students then learnt how to manipulate art materials to develop line, tone and form in their artwork. Following a series of materials workshops, students were able to develop a well-planned composition through consideration of the types of images they had selected. Students reflected further on how they could develop their artwork by abstracting, stylising and creating repeat patterns from their original observational artwork.

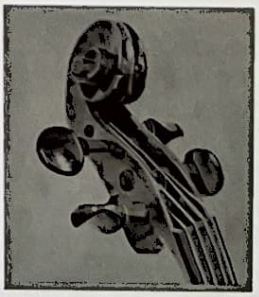
Year 9 students studied the topic Music and Art. They started the year by learning about Synesthesia, experiencing duel senses for one stimulus, and how different artists have used it to inspire their work. They also learnt about sound in Science, allowing for strong cross-curricular links in their learning. Students developed new techniques such as using palette knives and used music as inspiration (as our chosen Synesthesic artist did) and created abstract expressionist paintings. They also developed their observational drawing skills along with their ability to apply tonal shading in multiple materials.

In Year 10 students worked hard to develop their fundamental art skills by learning how to appropriately and successfully use watercolour paint; tonal shading; mark-making with pen; ink and water; and coloured inks. They also developed their photography and observational drawing skills and produced work of a very high standard. Students then learnt how to develop an artistic intention that would have an impact upon their world, and created Art work based on this.

Year 11 students worked on the preparation for their externally set examination for Visual Art this year. The topic set was Art for a Purpose and students have analysed and uncovered why artists create the work they do and what effect this has on the world around them. Students completed four tasks: Research, Intentions, Processes, and Product and Reflections in order to meet the IB success criteria. This was a challenging topic for the pupils however, they pushed themselves and created some very original pieces of Art.



Students in Years 12 & 13 worked on their individual projects. Using detailed artist analysis and research, the students have developed highly personal and interesting exhibition work. They have curated their exhibition and developed a curatorial statement to accompany the body of work. Students have also completed a process portfolio and comparative study to further enhance their work.



SS Design

Technology

The 2016-17 academic year proved to be an enthusiastic one from the students with regards to Design & Technology. The students had the opportunity to

participate in different experiences that pushed them to be more creative and open-minded in their approach towards technological achievement by expressing their skills, abilities and knowledge in the field of technology.

Valeska Langhammer 9E

Throughout the years of PD, I have created many different products such as: a lamp that represents a festival; picture frames; recycled packaging designs; door knockers; and many more. These projects have brought a lot of excitement as well as improved my skills. Over the 3 years of taking Product Design, I have ended up liking the process of how to create successful and creative products because of how each criteria is marked and

how much enjoyment is in each criterian. My favourite part of Product Design is the creation due to the fact that you can bring out your true creativity skills and apply them while creating a product.

Show your creativity through PD!!

Mia Aboul Saoud 7C

Design is a subject that I enjoy a lot as it works on increasing my creativity while we are learning how to solve any problem by using the Design cycle.

Saman Riaz 12-D

ITGS has been a surreal experience so far; I've been able to learn multiple skills about our modern day technology and the software we use in everyday life. The subject

has taught me a wide variety of things from different perspectives that can really come in handy for the future. I'm happy that I chose the subject as it really helps increase my knowledge in different aspects.

Ankit Chandnani: 12-

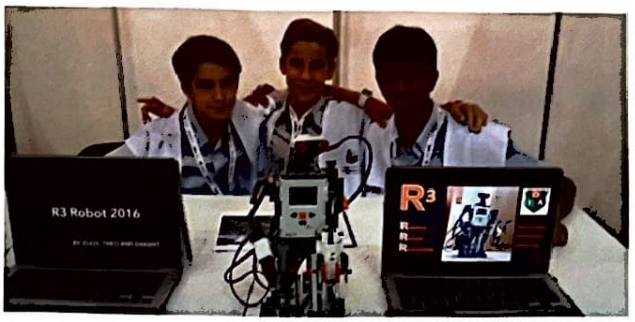
IT has always fascinated me since I was a little child and has made me learn new things I did not know existed! Taking this course has allowed me to expand my knowledge on various effects IT has on humans. ITGS is,

and always will be, the most interesting and fun subject I have ever taken.

WRO 2016

WRO 2016 National Competition was held in Abu Dhabi October 17, 2016 and a group of our very enthusiastic techies from Year 8 were all geared-up to participate. The theme of this event was 'rap the scrap' for which students built and programmed robots which were designed to manage or reduce waste. They put their presentations, posters and robots on display in their stalls, waiting eagerly for visitors and judges. With utmost confidence they presented their concept, explaining how their robot would tackle the problems relating to effective waste management. At the same time, it was also interesting to see other participants' work on display. Being a part of

SS Design



this huge event was a great learning experience for the young designers from DIA.

Global Grad Show

Product Design students of Year 11 and 12 visited the 'Global Grad Show' that opened during October 24th to 29th 2016, showcasing the innovative design work of numerous international students as part of the 2016 Dubai Design Week. The event showcased 145 projects from 50 of the globe's leading universities. The exhibition presented projects towards promoting the good for humanity, and ideas that create real and long-lasting impacts on our world.

The students were involved with the leaders and decision-makers to take part and see the myriad of possibilities and innovative ways of thinking to transform lives. During the field visit, we witnessed the growth and talent of the design industry in this region with a global outlook, seeking inspiration from innovative projects and interaction with design university students.

The Dubai Design District – A PD Paradise

On October 25th, for the second Year 12 Product Design field trip of the year, our teachers took us to the new D3 (Dubai Design District), a secluded paradise for all

things design. Upon the bus nearing the entrance, we could see a large open space with tall, uniquely-shaped buildings that gave the place a futuristic air. Entering the compound felt like entering a new dystopian world.

We were there primarily to see the Global Grad Show as part of Dubai Design Week, which was an opportunity for graduate design students from universities all over the world to showcase their work. We came across multiple innovative projects at the exhibition: one student built a pop up store from only wood and wire; another produced a music box that would turn vocal sounds into electronic music; and one student even created a device that could help copy and paste things in real life onto a computer! There were some projects that even boggled my idea of reality: one was a virtual reality console and the other was a pair of goggles with the ability to distort all sights viewed through the goggles.

But one factor that was constant throughout all the projects was that each student had an aim, both for why they had made their products and for why they had chosen to showcase their products in front of thousands of people that day. Everyone there had a different purpose and listening to each one was truly inspiring. For example, the girl who made the pop up store did it because she was frustrated by large clothing companies closing down local stores, so she made her pop up store to help promote local stores in her country.

After the Global Grad Show, we proceeded to see the rest of D3. Strolling around, we saw so many more intriguing products: spanning art galleries; wedding gown designs; and even a massive kaleidoscope made of Swarovski crystals. All in all, it was an amazing experience, and I think I can say on behalf of all of us that we learnt a lot and that this was the day we truly adopted "design minds" and became designers in our own right.

By Navya Gupta, 12 A

SS Physical Education

Physical and Health Education

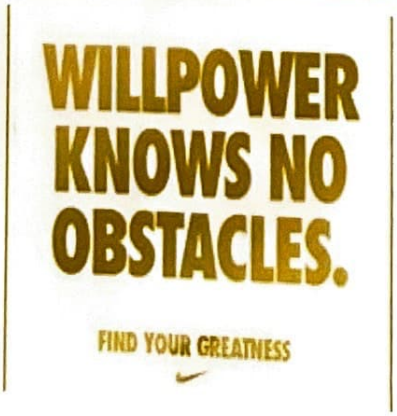
The 2016-17 academic year proved to be an enthusiastic one by the students with regards to Physical and Health Education. With every student in Secondary School participating in either the Year 7 – 9 PHE programme; the Year 10 – 11 PHE ePortfolio programme; or the Year 10 – 11 core PE programme, there was a high level of activity taking place across all the facilities in the school.

PHE Assembly

Early in the year, the PHE team put together an assembly with the focus on 'Finding Your Greatness'. This encouraged a push for everybody involved in DIA to find their own greatness in whatever sport or in whatever way they wanted. This could be from making the school team to simply joining a sports' CCA in order to develop practically. Not only did this inspire students to work on achieving their individual goals, it was also something the DIA competitive teams used to motivate themselves in their competitions.

The DIA Challenge

Another focus of the assembly was the introduction of 'The DIA Challenge'. This challenge was adapted by the JKF challenge from the American School system in 1962. Albeit less intense, the DIA challenge proved to be popular among the students where they received the opportunity to showcase their fitness levels.



Physical Education Events

The two main events organized by the PE department consisted of the Swimming GALA and Sports' Day. Both events were highly competitive and participation levels were high.

Sports Day

Sports' Day Smells like Team Spirit

Sports' Day at DIA is organized annually for the students of our school to take a break from their busy academic schedules and showcase their athletic abilities. As we grow older and schoolwork starts to take up more of our time, it is important that we remind ourselves to keep our lives balanced. Extra-curricular activities are just as important as studies, which is why this particular event is perfect for students who may not excel in the typical classroom. It allows them the opportunity to display their talents in other fields through teamwork and focus. The events of this year's Sports' Day – held on the 6th of February – included football, basketball, volleyball, athletics, tennis, table tennis and dodgeball, among other fun activities like sack races, as well.

Practically growing up at DIA, this day is one I have always looked forward to, and being a house captain, I wanted others to be able to experience the same feeling this year. I believe I was successful in this, because my house (Air) managed to secure 2nd place against all the other houses this year! This is definitely an achievement I am proud of, but also one I cannot take credit for alone. As Air House Captain, I do my best to encourage all Air house students to participate in the sports, or even contribute to our teams by supporting players from the bleachers. It is this support and hard work from all the members of my house that have helped us achieve 2nd place, and I am so thankful for it.

In my opinion, one of the greatest treasures of being a house captain has been the opportunity to witness students surprise themselves. Many students do not realise that they are good at something because they have never tried it, and Sports' Day is the event that helps so many of these students actually recognise their potential talents. This has taught me the essence of motivating others and how I can use my role as a leader within the school to make a difference. I deeply hope to pass this spirit down to future house captains and many more students as I enter my last year of captaincy.

By Renee de Geus, 12 D

Air House Captain

Sports Day

Water – Spirit Flows Through Our House

"W-A-T-E-R! Let's tell them who we are! Water, water, who are we? We're the house you want to be!" This was the chant that could be heard from miles away when the Water House won Sports' Day. Water's performance on Sports' Day, and all other events this year, has been outstanding. I am incredibly proud to be the captain of this house along with my co-captains, Saud and Ebrahim.

One of the most mesmerising things about our house is that every single member of Water contributed and played a major role in our victory on Sports' Day. The spirit and participation of students in the Water House have repeatedly brought smiles to all our faces because we are so proud of how far we have come. This large group of talented and persistent individuals continues to prove to us that these students are truly committed to representing their house well and exceeding their potentials.

By Tyra Sabharwal, 12 C

Water House Captain

SS Special Education Needs

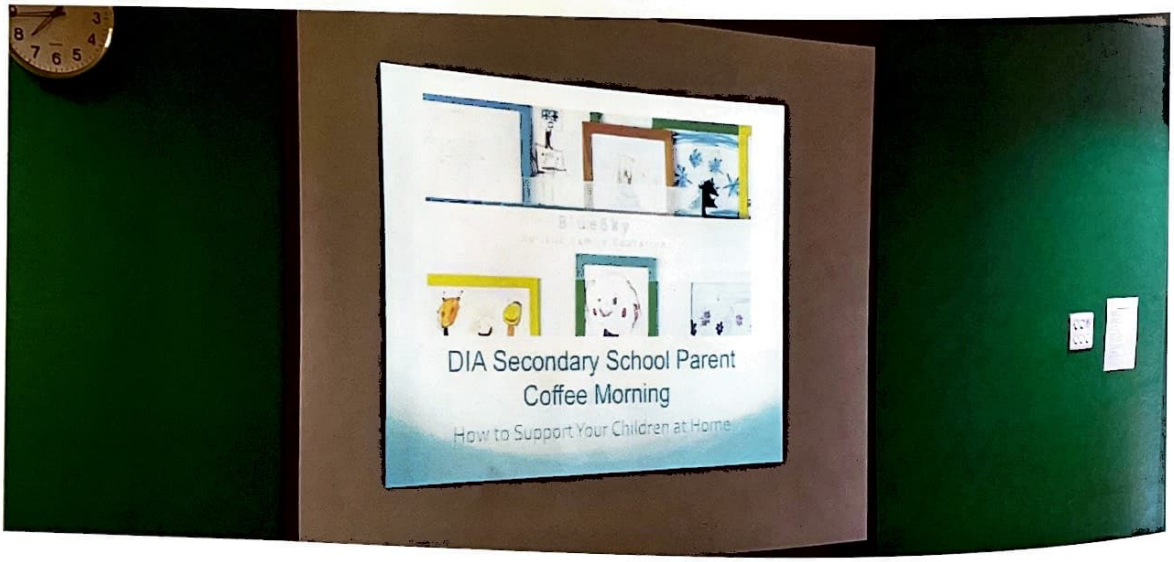
Learning Support in Secondary School

This year has been particularly exciting for the Secondary Learning Support department, as a new team structure was put in place. We have worked hard to establish policies and procedures to ensure our students, who are most in need, receive our optimal support in order for them to achieve the best possible outcomes throughout the year.

Many such students receive support in subjects such as English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities by our team of dedicated Learning Support Assistant Teachers. In addition to in-class support, we have also offered a variety of workshops for English, Mathematics, Science and Humanities to further enhance the understanding of class content to selected students, who benefit from these sessions. Here students have the opportunity to practise their current skills and reflect on prior teaching in smaller groups.

Our department also successfully offers a wide variety of screenings to support teachers and parents in the identification of students for a range of learning difficulties, if required. This year we have built relationships with external specialists, such as psychologists, therapists and counselors from agencies across Dubai, to offer the best support and guidance for our students within the school setting. We have even arranged successful parent information Coffee Mornings through these agencies.

As a department, we are continuously striving to provide our students with a balanced amount of support, ensuring that they work independently and take responsibility for their learning. We are very proud to see that many of the students who we work with are achieving good results in their exams and are being accepted into the universities of their choice.



SS Special Education Needs

Testimonials

Teachers:

"I have found the benefit of having an LSAT in the classroom is that they can help to provide individual one-to-one support while being available to answer queries immediately. This helps to keep students on task and motivated. As my LSAT was in the school last year, she is familiar with the students' needs and was the constant for some students when their teacher changed from the previous year. I also found this helpful as I was able to get a more in-depth knowledge of the students early on and an understanding of how the students may have progressed from the previous year." - Ms Carina Saunders, Year 8 Mathematics Support Teacher.

Students:

"It is helpful to be in a smaller class with an extra teacher to give us a different view. If I am stuck, I can get different views, which helps me improve on my work." - Year 8, English Support Student.

"Every now and then Miss Audrey or Miss Tine come by my desk and ask questions to make sure I am on task and if I am not, it helps me get back on track." - Year 8, English Support Student.

Parents:

"I would like to thank the Learning Support team for the support provided to my son and myself during this year. Through the regular meetings, we were kept informed about his progress and were given constructive solutions for the problems he had. Meetings were well-prepared with feedback from the teachers and professional opinions. I especially appreciated how my son was encouraged to take ownership of deciding which strategy to adopt as a solution to his learning problems." - Year 11, Parent

SS GATEway

Gateway is an enrichment programme for high achieving and self-driven students to challenge themselves in subject areas they are passionate about. This programme not only encourages them to challenge themselves in class with the support of their teachers, but also grant them access to many competitive and enriching opportunities. This year, students have participated in annual events such as 'The Quest', 'DIAMUN', 'STAR Quiz', 'The Emirates Literature Festival' and many others while also having the opportunity to lead their own projects. Furthermore, students have been able to participate in new programmes such as 'Generation P' and 'Halls of Ivy' to equip themselves with the latest knowledge and skills based upon our ever changing society. Whether it be creative activities, sciences, public speaking, languages or others - you are all welcome at Gateway where we come together under our infinite curiosity.

Testimonials

This year was one of the best years that GATEway has had since its inception. With the new academic year, came our new GATEway co-ordinator. Already making my math lessons fun, Mrs Gallardo was going to revolutionise GATEway. From getting many successful people from their fields to starting new programmes like 'Generation P' and 'Halls of Ivy', we have achieved a lot this year. One of our first events was participating in the 'Credence quiz' competition, where my team and I made it to the finals after 3 gruelling rounds, against hundreds of students. Apart from the monthly GATEway meetings where we get the opportunity to talk to successful entrepreneurs, game developers, career counsellors, etc., I was lucky enough to participate in another GATEway event, 'Generation P'. GenP is a new programme started by a few friends that aims to educate the children of today about how you can predict future jobs, and develop skills that will help you realise those careers. Going through the 5 P's (Passion, Purpose, Plan, Possibilities and Peer) we learned a lot, from megatrends to the Venn diagram of passion and it has been an incredible journey I got to share with my fellow Gateway members. As the year comes to a close, we are still working on new activities such as the new design project, called 'Halls of Ivy'. This year has been an amazing journey, and I can't wait to see what new opportunities await us next year, when we cross this GATEway.

Aditya Rathi, Year 11

Gateway is more than just a programme for kids. It is a learning opportunity, a challenge and a chance at a new approach to learning. Not only does it teach us about facts and knowledge, but it also provides us with an experience.

It was great in raising my aspirations. Participating in competitions like 'Math Olympic's and 'Asset' provided the opportunity to meet other students from other schools with similar interests; you can get a sense of how this could look at college and university level.

I truly enjoyed the lunch meetings with different guest speakers and the trip to the Pearl Museum where we learned everything about pearls and their history.

Louisa Pohl, Y7D

I am in the GATEway programme for my talent in Music. It is a subject I highly enjoy, and I regularly devote my time and effort to expanding on my theoretical and practical knowledge of it. I have participated in many solo and group musical performances this year, including the 'Innoventures Musical Soiree', the 'ChoirFest Middle East 2017' semi-finals and finals, the DIA alumni gathering and at the 'DIAMUN'2017 opening ceremony with my A Capella group "The Symphonettes".

Abhinaya Chandramohan, Year 12 – E

GATEway is just one word, though it has a large meaning that is true far beyond what the acronym actually means. GATEway is a Gifted and Talented Enrichment (though I like to think it stands for: Grow, Achieve, Try, Excel) programme that provides especially talented students with challenging material in certain subjects in which they are accomplished in. Personally, I know in Primary School everyone stressed how important academics were, but there is a much wider variety of opportunities than that! GATEway focuses on a large spectrum of different skills that aren't necessarily taught in school, and the activities aren't boring or limited at all - they come in all forms of context. Even for people who don't like competitions or tests, there are less stressful options such as projects and continuous individual or group working tasks. You name it, there's probably an activity, club or competition for it and everyone can find something to do that they enjoy. Whether it's developing and improving communication skills through debating, working on certain school subjects to spark thinking skills, any gift is encouraged and totally acceptable. For me, it has definitely been a fulfilling experience so far as it has given me the confidence to experiment with not only my academics, but also other activities focusing on The Arts which I am very passionate about. What GATEway has taught me is that you should never be hesitant to challenge yourself in fear of 'failing' or not succeeding to your ability, standards or potential, because it's the experience and process that truly counts as a memory...After all, you shouldn't disregard something without trying it, even if it intimidates you!

Aristia (Tea) Louka 8E v

SS GATEway

Lunch Seminar with Bart Van de Vel - Global Marketing Facebook

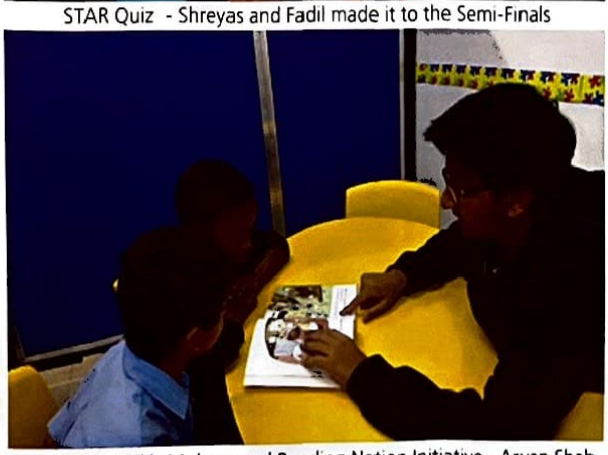
Trip to the Pearl Museum

Generation P - Pilot Program

STAR Quiz

STAR Quiz - Shreyas and Fadil made it to the Semi-Finals

Credence Quiz



Highness Sheikh Mohammed Reading Nation Initiative - Aryan Shah (Year 11) and Rishi Shah (Year 8)

Emirates Swimming Cup 2017 - Nour Abdallah Year 10

Overview of Year 7

Head of Year 7 Message

This year has been super exciting for everyone involved with Year 7, but especially for the Year 7 students themselves. Moving from Primary School into Secondary School is a milestone in everyone's life and hopefully this year has been especially memorable for all of you.

You have shown great maturity and responsibility and have fitted into the lifestyle of Secondary School with ease. While I know at the start many of you were fearful of the 'big bad Secondary teachers', I'm sure that by now you have us all wrapped around your fingers.

It really has been a whirlwind of a year with many unforgettable events including the talent show, sports day, awards ceremonies, battle of the houses, spirit week, international evening and many more. Many of you have had fantastic achievements in your many different talents and interests and many of you have also taken up new hobbies, skills and activities - you should all be very proud of these.

Congratulations to all of you for completing this year. I hope you all continue to strive to reach your goals and dreams and I am confident Year 8 will be even more successful and exciting for each of you.

"All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them" – Walt Disney

Sarah Walsh
Head of Year 7

World Book Day Homeroom Activity

Book Week this year was amazing. We had loads of fun and learnt important skills.

We had two weeks to read a novel; each group picked a different book, which was a bit of a challenge for some groups! On the positive side, we learnt a lot about how the authors express themselves in books of different genres. This motivated us to read more books.

After the novel was read, we collaborated as a team to discuss the book and write a book review. This was really fun because it was nice to talk about what others thought of the story. We then presented our review to the rest of the class. After this was done we voted on whether or not we would like to read the books based on each group's review.

It was so great to see lots of people with their hands up who wanted to read our book. Altogether. Book Week was really exciting and we look forward to it next year.

Harsha and Meline 7E

Overview of Year 7

Year 7 Transition

When we came to Secondary School, we thought it was going to be difficult and scary. We thought that we were going to be eaten by the Year 13s hovering over us. But, it turns out that we were colouring in cupcakes in homeroom. The teachers helped us understand the criteria and were willing to help us when we were confused. Thanks to them, we learnt all sorts of new things that will help in the future.

In this journey of ours we have had so many opportunities, like learning hands-only CPR, Science fairs, and awards at the end of the semester. I remember my very first test. The nerves got to me. I studied day and night.

Although we are only starting the second semester, Secondary School has helped me with my time-management and has taught me not to leave things to the last minute.

When we started Secondary School, we were so excited for the lockers and I remember spending at least a 100 dirhams on supplies. I tried to make my locker so neat, but as months went by, my locker started to look like a jungle.

When I joined the athletics team, I was so scared because I barely knew anyone and they were all way better than me. I was scared of messing up and looking like a fool, but as I improved on my skills I got less scared and I got to know most of the people in the team. Thank you to Ms Walsh, Ms Beata, Ms McKeogh, Mr McBreen and Ms Timlin.

Hearing that there were try-outs for the swim team I was so excited to join the team. However, when I went to try-outs and looked at the amount of people there I was suddenly so scared, but after a few days I learned that I was a part of the swim squad. I had a blast with the team, Ms Beata and Ms Turnbull.
Thank you Secondary School for this great experience.

Leen and Mahrukh 7C

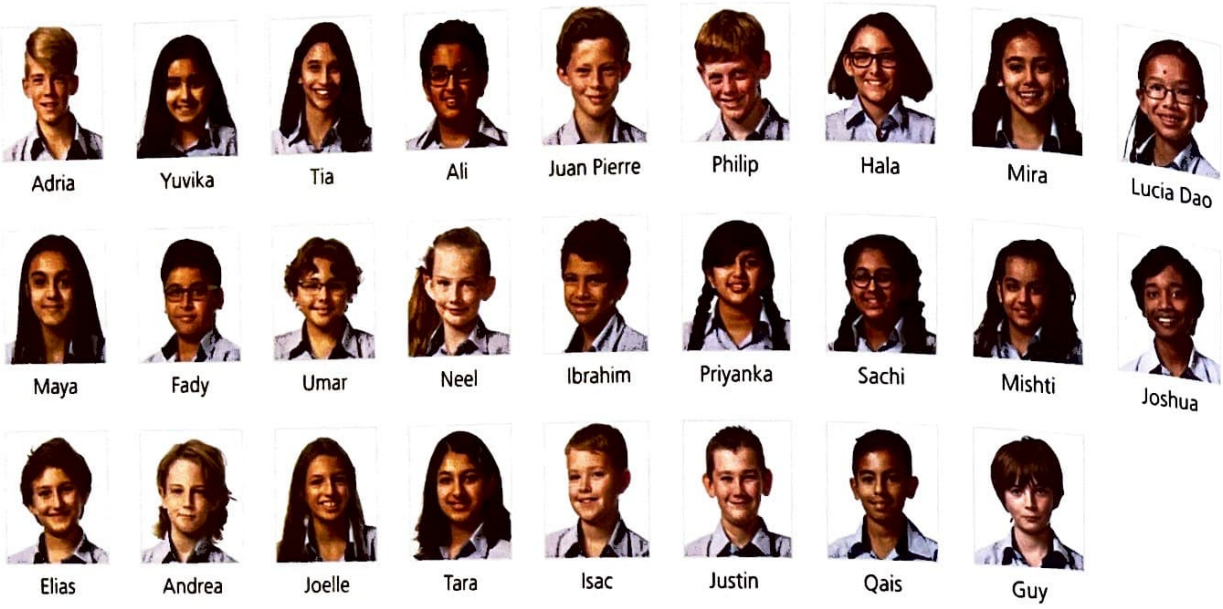
Going from Year 6 to Year 7 was an exhilarating journey. One year ago we had no idea what to expect as thoughts and doubts crossed our minds. What if we are late? Do we get detention? What if we don't hear the bell?
But as the days pass within Secondary, the teachers weren't as bad as we thought and it was easy to hear the bell. We used our skills as thinkers to help ourselves fill up with knowledge. While Secondary School is definitely different to Primary, we are having more fun than ever before.

Jamie 7B

Everyone has had many experiences: good ones, bad ones, fun ones and many more in different places and at different times. But we can all agree that moving from Year 6 to Year 7, thus leaving Primary and entering Secondary, will always be one of the most important and memorable experiences of our lifetime. All of us went from the big fish in the small lake, to the small fish in the big lake and we all knew from the first day that we were going to have many new adventures in Year 7.

Elias 7A

Year 7 A

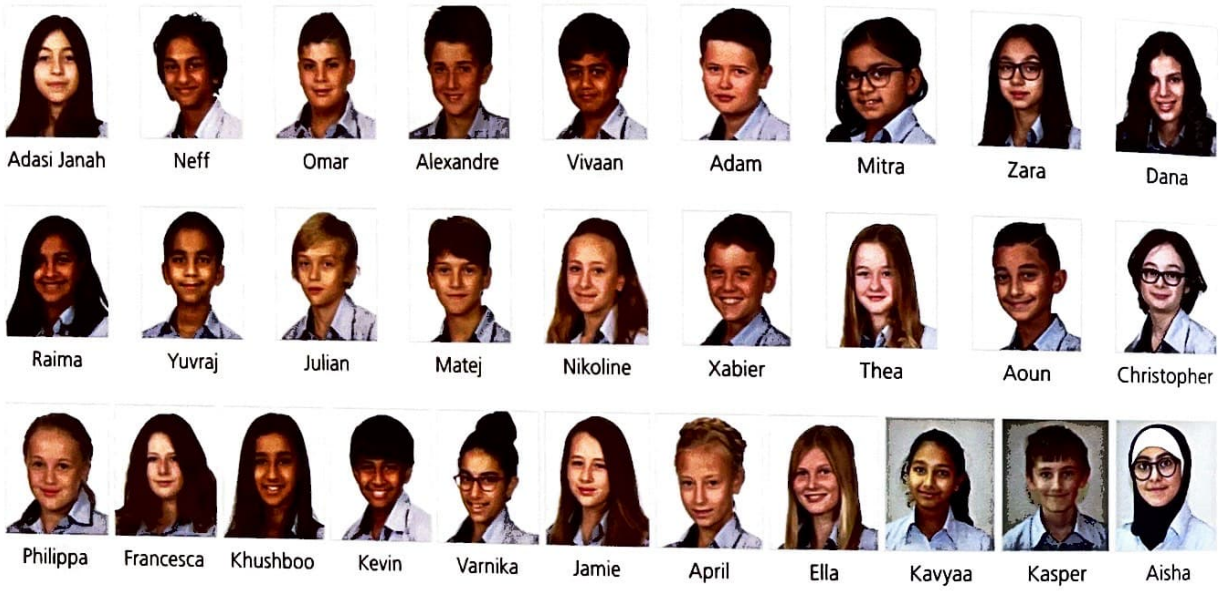


Adria, Yuvika, Tia, Ali, Juan Pierre, Philip, Hala, Mira, Lucia Dao

Maya, Fady, Umar, Neel, Ibrahim, Priyanka, Sachi, Mishti, Joshua

Elias, Andrea, Joelle, Tara, Isac, Justin, Qais, Guy

Year 7 B



Adasi Janah, Neff, Omar, Alexandre, Vivaan, Adam, Mitra, Zara, Dana

Raima, Yuvraj, Julian, Matej, Nikoline, Xabier, Thea, Aoun, Christopher

Philippa, Francesca, Khushboo, Kevin, Varnika, Jamie, April, Ella, Kavyaa, Kasper, Aisha

Year 7 C

Mia, Leen, Polina, Tariq, Aashna, Tulin, Aly, Kaleo, Minea

Lorenzo, Nada, Saachi, Mahrukh, Leena, Jeremy, Rayaan, Amalie, Aahil

Year 7 C

Rida, Tomas, Laetitia, Arthur, Ariyana, Viraaj, Yassin, Georges, Beren, Yukta

Year 7 D

Lucia, Zara, Linus, Arav, Leonidas, Georgia, Diego, Maximilian, Diya

Dev, Anthony, Tanuvi, Arnav, Delyar, Jure, Seweryn, Keya, Darshan

Louisa, Elle, Capucine, Jessica, Samay, Moona, Elli, Yasmina

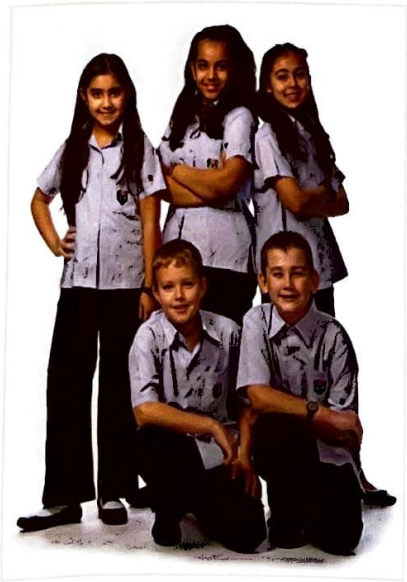
Year 7 E

Yaquin, Harsha, Jens, Robyn, Sophia, Valentina, Aynaz, Anish, Paula-Zoe

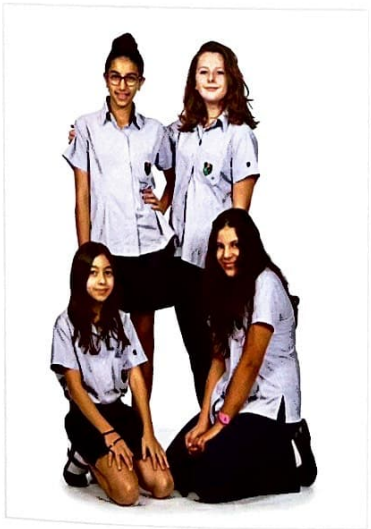
Ahmed, Adam, Diya, Ebrahim, Kate, Vinith, Dhruv, Neil, Aarav

Aoife, Jaewon, Meline, Rossa, Mariana, Iida, Jad, Aadi, Adrian

Year 7A

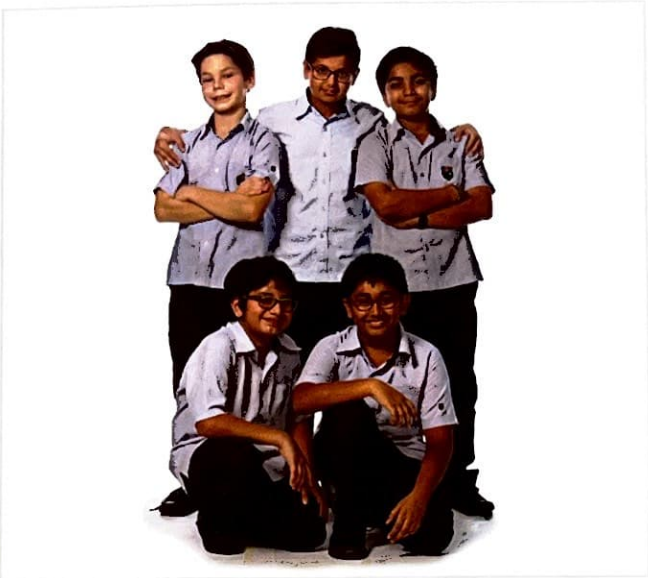


Year 7B



Year 7C

Year 7D



Year 7E

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HP Chromebook x360 11 G1 EE

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- Chrome OS™
- HP School Pack preloaded
- 2x2 wireless
- 11.6" diagonal HD UWVA touch screen with Corning® Gorilla® Glass 3

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Four modes. Built to last. Designed for learning.

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HP ProBook x360 11 G2 EE Notebook PC

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- HP School Pack preloaded
- 2x2 wireless
- Designed to pass MIL-STD 810G testing
- 11.6" diagonal HD touch19 display with 360° flexibility

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An adaptable detachable.

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HP x2 210 G2 Detachable PC

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- Detachable PC
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Intel Inside®. Extraordinary Performance Outside.

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Overview of Year 8

I am Ms Barbara and I am Head of Year 8. It is my third year as Head of Year for this group of students and once again it has been another enjoyable and interesting journey. At least this time, we were not the youngest in the school anymore. Saying that, we also learnt that being older requires lots of new responsibility.

Living in Dubai and being in DIA, provides us with the opportunity to constantly meet many new people. During the course of this year, we welcomed many new students into the group. It was fun to extend our friendships and learn from new perspectives. We sadly also had to say goodbye to some very special friends who are leaving Dubai whom we will dearly miss. At the same time, this year, we were lucky enough to welcome back a few returning students!

Academically, the year presented us with many opportunities to enhance our skills as IB learners. It was such a pleasure to see the progress in organisational skills, dedication and overall seriousness about learning. The step between being dependent to slowly becoming more independent learners has scope to produce a lot of challenges; however, the Year 8 students managed excellent results in their subjects as well as in the annual IBT tests. As mentioned in the awards ceremony, it is equally impressive to see high achievers as well as students who have shown significant progress in their learning. A massive congratulations to you all.

Internet Safety was an aspect that received a lot of focus this year during homeroom lessons. We were reminded of the amazing benefits the internet can offer, but at the same time we were reminded of the importance of creating a positive online reputation and thinking twice about what we agree to when using the internet. Well done to all the groups who took part, and thank you to the homeroom teachers for assisting with this.

Finally, the highlight of the year was the Science fair. I enjoyed watching you all set up your displays and listening to your presentations in which you demonstrated your understanding of the Science behind your projects. You were indeed knowledgeable IB leaners!

Looking ahead to next year, we have another list to tick off: the community project! For those of you who did the exhibition in Year 8, I am sure you will be reminded of the skills you learnt back then, especially when you are reflecting. I look forward to another year to guide you in reaching for your dreams, inspiring each other and working to your full potential.

Have a relaxing summer! You all deserve a fun break!

Ms Barbara

Overview of Year 8

Aint 8 Great?!

On the whole, Year 8 by far has been my best year in high school. That being said, this has only been my second year in high school at DIA. Year 8 was eventful, packed with memorable highlights which were especially fulfilling. It was a challenging year academically, but we were not bombarded with work to the point that it left us with no time for anything else. It can be described best as: a year with the perfect balance of work and fun.

Like all first timers, we made mistakes. A few lessons, I fortunately learned early, include: the importance of one's planner and locker; organisation of time; and perseverance in all aspects of school. To begin with, the workload substantially increased in Year 8 thus making my planner, my new best friend. Slacking off when filling out your planner might have worked in Year 7, but that doesn't cut it in Year 8. Though the increase of workload is gradual, I strongly exhort all coming into Year 8 to get into the habit of filling out their planners daily. For when projects like the Science fair (which I will write about later) come around, the flow of homework from other subjects does not come to a halt, making it impossible to memorize due dates, project details etc. Your planner makes life a whole lot easier. Another reminder is to use your locker. Unless you want to end with a spinal cord infarction, I highly urge you to use your locker to your advantage, allowing you to carry a lighter bag throughout the day.

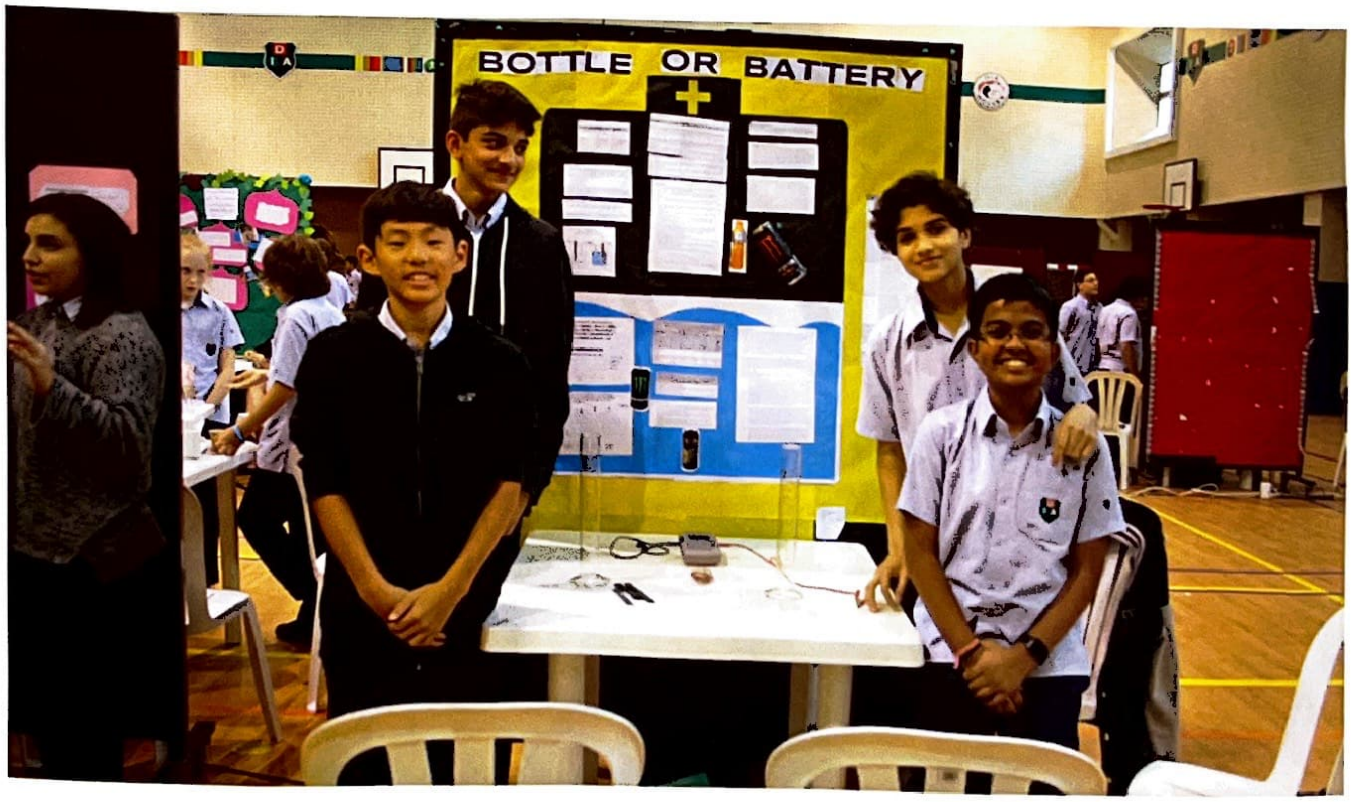
That's it for my words of wisdom, now let's begin to talk about what made my year so special. Despite the heavy workload, I found this year to be very fulfilling as tackling every challenge resulted in a sense of accomplishment - the sort that gave me energy and filled me with enthusiasm to tackle all tasks to the best of my ability. This work ethic and mind-set not only improved my approach to life but made me feel unstoppable. I must commemorate my teachers for giving me assignments that ranged from creating my own short film to diving into topics such as electrolysis and evaluating metal ion compositions within batteries. As most would agree, the Science fair was the highlight of the academic year. To begin with, we all looked back with nostalgia at our Primary School Science fair and reflected on the strides we had taken academically.

If academics provided mental challenges, sports pushed us to our physical peak. Trying out for the school sports teams was one of the best decisions I made this year. Making new friends, developing skills and getting time off school were only some of the benefits of joining multiple sports teams, not to mention the nifty jacket/ hoodie that came with it.

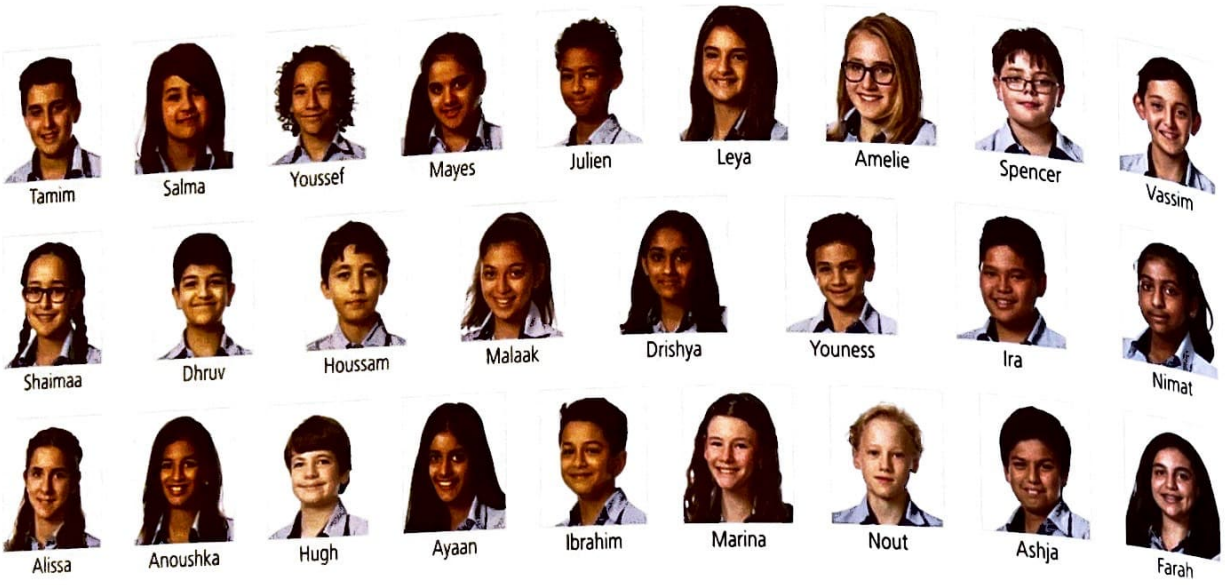
If only I was allowed a larger word count, I would be able to list a number of further highs of Year 8. However, I hope that reading this has provided you with enough confidence and excitement that the year ahead could be one of the best for you too. All I can end with is a hope that Year 9 lives up to Year 8!

Till next year,

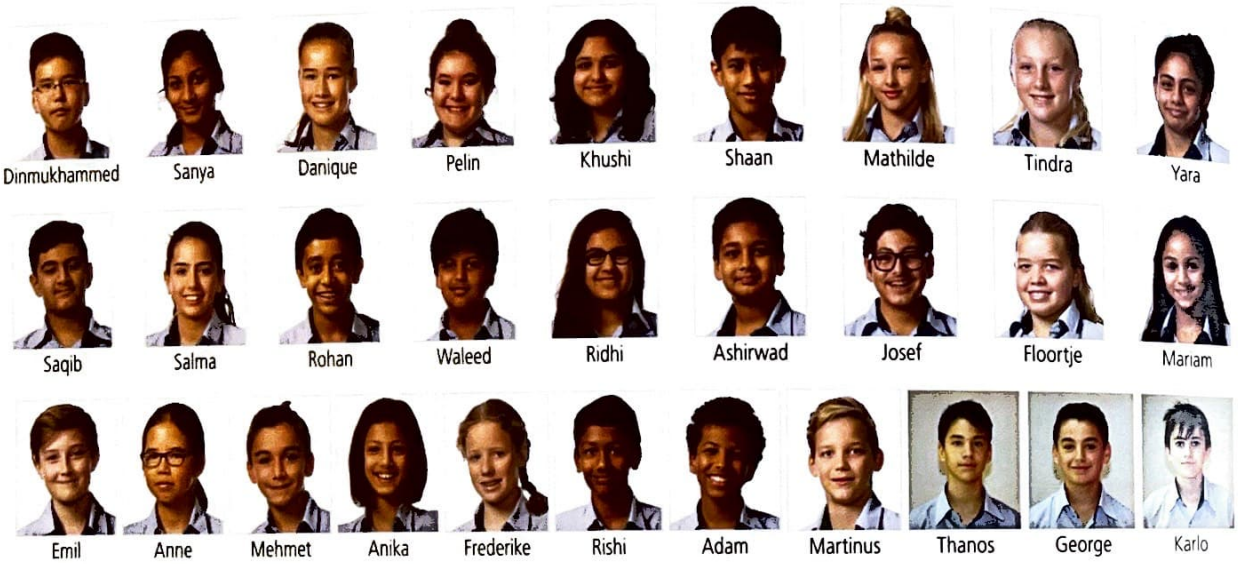
Johan Pinto



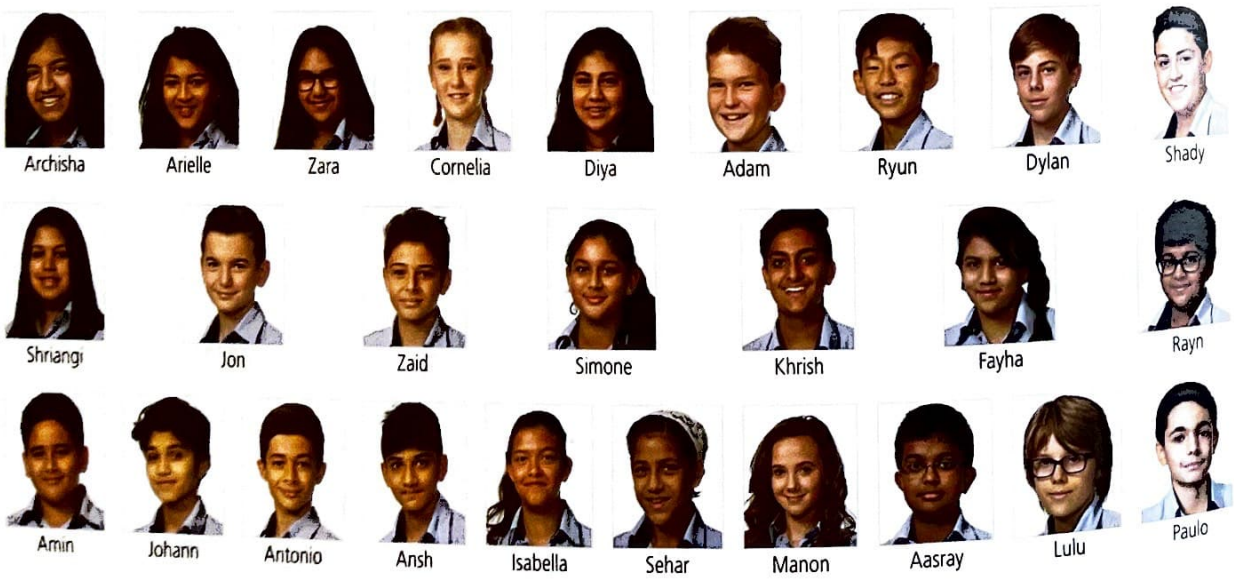
Year 8 A



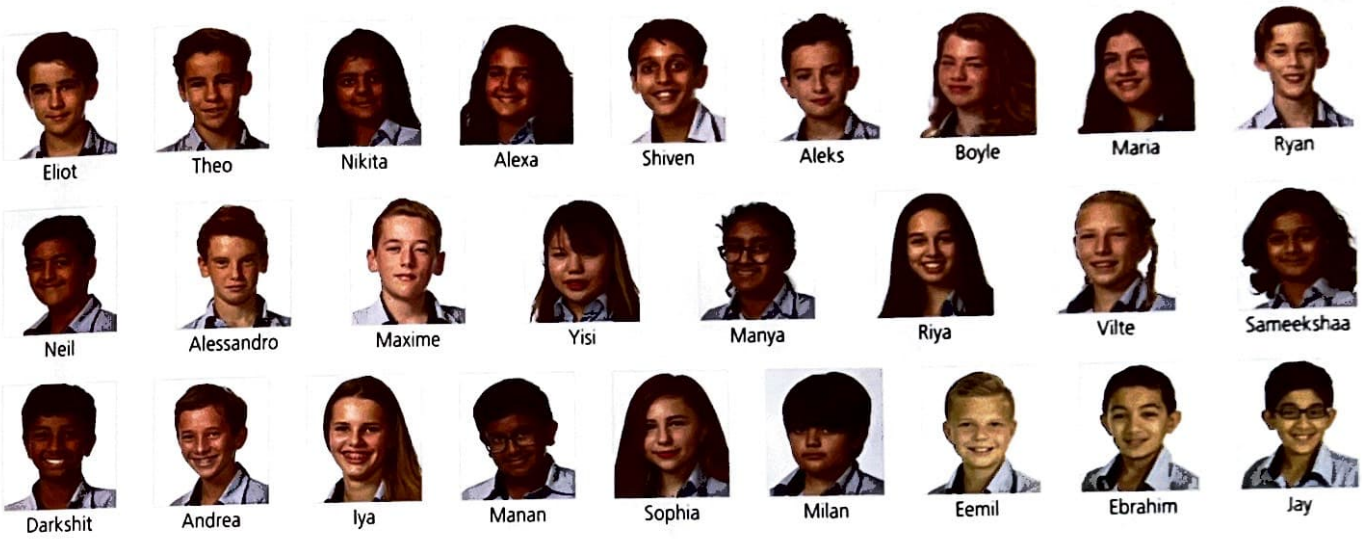
Year 8 B



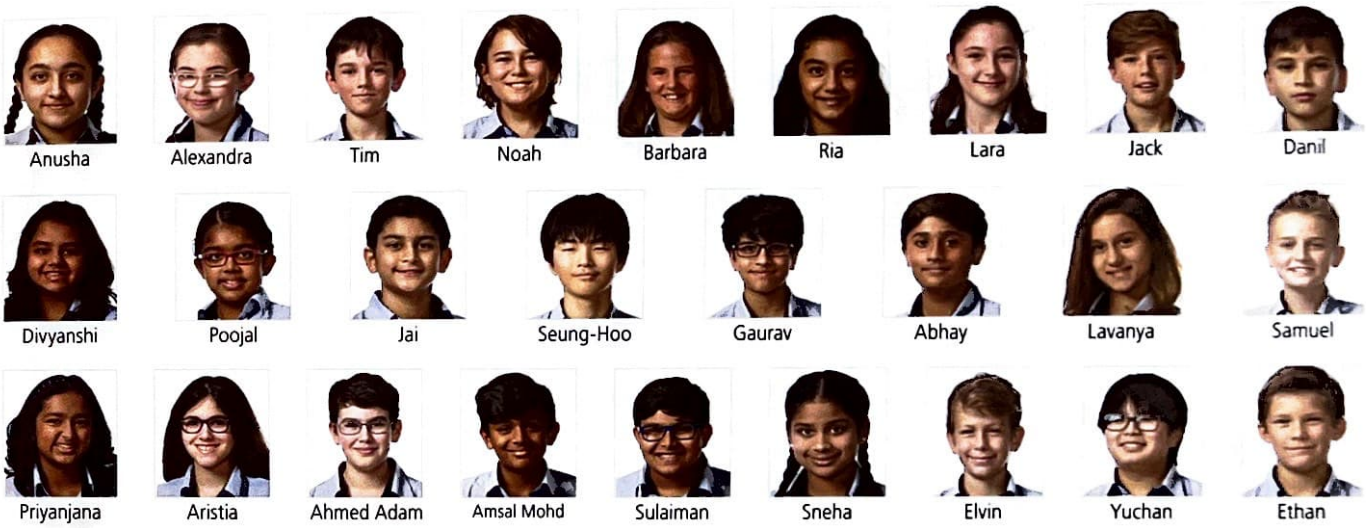
Year 8 C



Year 8 D



Year 8 E



Year 8A

Year 8B

Year 8C

Year 8D

Year 8E

Science Fair

A Day Full of Exciting Experiments

The Year 8 Science Fair was a team effort from all the students of Year 8 who participated in their various groups. On the 21st of February, as a huge variety of experiments were presented by all the groups, there was a strong sense of excitement among all of us as we shared new knowledge with each other.

Our team's science project for this term was an experiment about how different colours affect memory. We named the project "Colour Cognito", which literally translates to hidden colour. Our method consisted of four trials with five different people and we gave each of them a set of eight cards with a consistent colour. Each of those cards had different objects written on it. We also gave each student a limited amount of time (20 seconds) to memorize the objects and list them. Once we completed all four trials, we compared the results and found out that yellow was the most memorised colour.

My experience of the Science Fair was thrilling, as it was a pleasure to get to explain our results to my classmates and other visitors, including a few primary school students who were open to learning about our unique experiment. From the fair and our experiment, I have learnt the true value and importance of teamwork, because I would not have been able to conduct such an interesting experiment without my teammates.

Ria Chawla, 8 E

A Mass-ive Victory

My group and I were thrilled when we learned that we had been selected for the Innoventures Science Fair to be held at the Raffles International School on the 18th of October. Our topic for the fair was 'Momentum, Mass and Velocity'. The experience was wonderful, and I definitely learnt a lot.

We were filled with confidence and began to set up our stalls as soon as we arrived at RIS. We were then officially welcomed with an opening ceremony where the principal of the school delivered a very encouraging speech, wishing us all well for the Science Fair. After this, we eagerly prepared ourselves for the hectic two hours of presenting ahead of us. We really enjoyed teaching visitors of all ages about momentum, mass and velocity. I think we did a great job working as a team and delivering our information to the audience – parents, teachers and judges!

Then came the moment we had been waiting for – the results were announced! My group was overjoyed to hear that we had come in 2nd place amongst all the other teams from all the Innoventures schools! We felt very proud coming home with certificates in our hands and medals around our necks. This opportunity was amazing and I am very thankful to have been given this chance, as it was a memorable experience!

Harsha Bharadwaj, Year 8

Year 9 Overview

What a year it has been for Year 9! A year of decision making, not only for ourselves, but for the wider community. I am extremely proud of all you have accomplished this year, particularly, the effort and dedication displayed towards the community projects.

I wish you all every success as you move into Year 10 – another year of making choices with the many opportunities that will be presented to you.

"The purpose of education...is to create in a person the ability to look at the world for himself, to make his own decisions". James Baldwin

Miss Turnball

Here are some of the highlights from Year 9...

Community Project

The highlight of the year and a project every Year 9 student anticipates, the Community Project is an exciting occasion for everyone to collaborate and make the world a better and more peaceful place. The basis of this project is to raise awareness of the issues in the world and execute an action or service in order to give back to the community. It is a great opportunity to get together with friends and peers to exemplify the IB learner, spread knowledge, and educate others on the problems going on around the globe. It allows students to research a topic they are passionate about and learn more about it while developing society and individuals, slowly but surely. This also greatly helps to prepare students for their Year 11 Personal Project. It is beneficial in bringing students out of their comfort zone and looking out for their immediate community.

The Year 9 projects were amazing and it was clear everyone put in so much hard work. This was a great opportunity for us to make a change, no matter how big or small, and benefit our ever changing world.

Damayanti Bose & Sophie Sananikone 9B

Year 10 Options

Choosing from the subject options for Year 10 has been the biggest decision we have made so far regarding our education. At first, we were a bit apprehensive on what we would be choosing, as none of us had chosen our subjects before. We all wanted to make sure that we chose the subjects that we were good at, enjoyed, and wanted to learn more about. With the help of our teachers guiding us, and the options evening, we were able to choose the correct subjects. The options evening was really beneficial for us as we got different views and aspects regarding what we would be learning in each individual subject, and whether it was suitable for us. Our teachers guided us towards our strengths, and showed us the criteria of each subject. This was a really big decision for us to make, but with the support of everyone around – especially our teachers and parents, it definitely helped us to finalise our decision of the subject choices. Now that we know what subjects we are doing, we are really excited for Year 10!

Mantika Harish 9A

MLA Presentation

MLA citing is an essential skill which everyone should be taught, especially in this day and age where 'copy and paste' is relied on by many. Ms Corleen Gallinger was kind enough to educate us on how to properly use MLA. Ms Corleen taught everyone, the importance of integrity and academic honesty. Furthermore, she updated us on the new and improved MLA 8 and informed us on what should be included in this new style. It was extremely easy to understand what she was trying to teach us, as she spoke in a clear and concise manner. Year 9 students have learned a fundamental skill that is applicable in everyday life. I'm confident that we would all love to hear another informative presentation from Ms Corleen in Year 10!

Jaden Riachi 9B

Science

During semester one, Year 9 explored the unit of genetics. To gain a further understanding of the topic, we were taken to a fake crime scene where we explored the methods of collecting DNA samples and further variables that can help solve a murder investigation. These included fingerprints, blood samples, and hair samples. The unit was very interesting and very helpful in general to all students and especially effective to students who plan on pursuing the biological study of crime investigation in the future. Everyone was surprised to find out that Miss McKeogh was the guilty one!

Neel Amarnani 9D

Safer Internet Day

Presently, technological devices are becoming a major component of education within the IB Curriculum. Therefore, internet safety is a very important aspect when using the web in school. The IT Department at DIA are already doing their best to block and disable websites with unsafe environments, in addition to teaching about how we can prevent these types of encounters in school and outside to help us stay as safe as possible on the internet.

To help the Year 9 students with being secure on the internet, all Year 9 homeroom teachers dedicated one homeroom period to discuss and understand cyber safety. Students were asked to acknowledge the message of web safety by creating their own

Year 9 Overview

PowerPoint presentations, videos, informative texts, spider diagrams and many more creative ways to represent their insights. Some classes were lucky enough to be able to display their tremendous work on boards outside of their homeroom class.

Always be careful on the internet, just remember "You are the key to your safety!"

Saim Riaz 9D

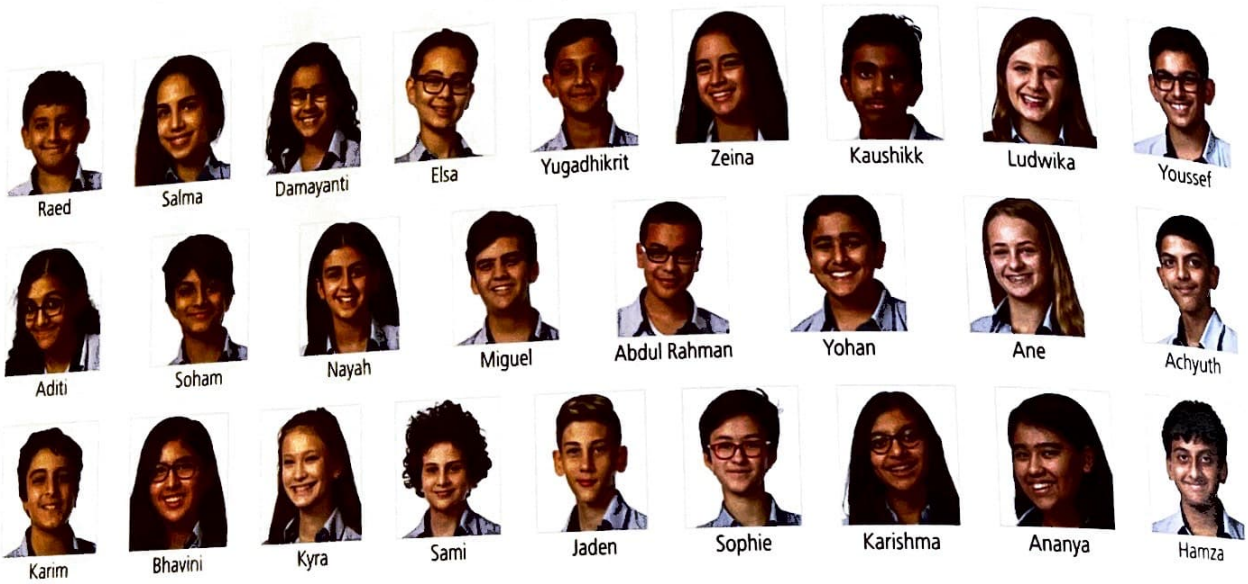
Year 9 A

Reem, Khader, Diyaa, Abdulrahman, Avneet, Jiya, Calvin, Gustav, Nicole

Chloe, Aly, Mantika, Jashanman, Raafey, Raif, Hassaan, Samiya

Zeid, Patrycja, Frida, Siddharth, Saloni, Isha, Anushka, Miesha, Hema, Werner

Year 9 B

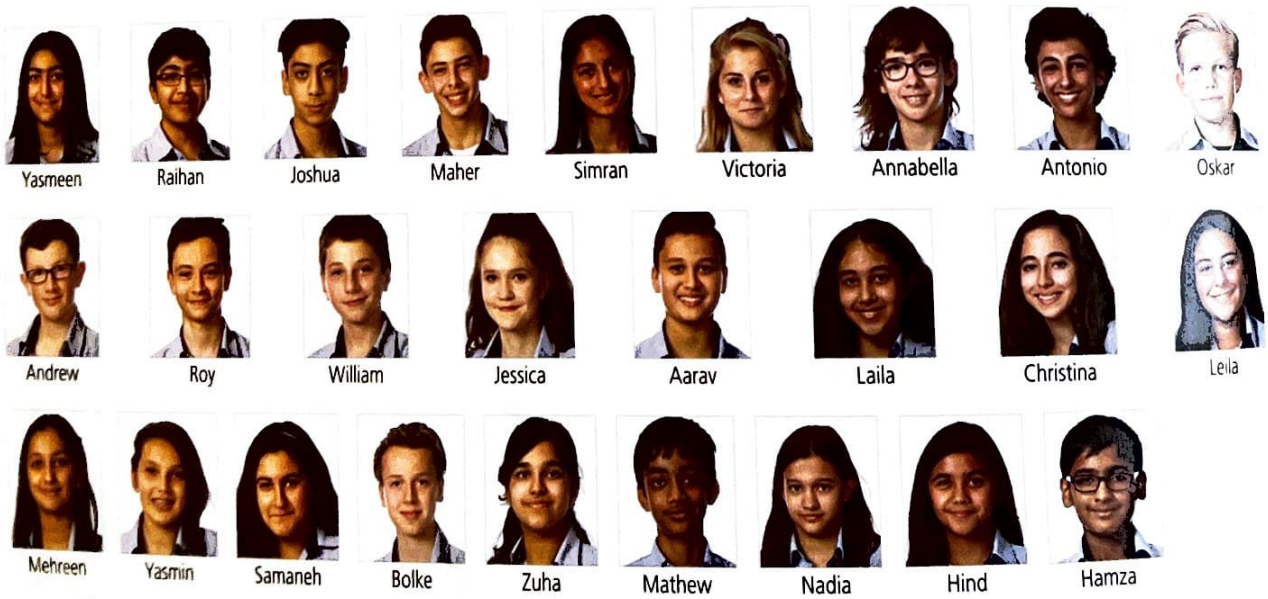


Raed, Salma, Damayanti, Elsa, Yugadhikrit, Zeina, Kaushikk, Ludwika, Youssef

Aditi, Soham, Nayah, Miguel, Abdul Rahman, Yohan, Ane, Achyuth

Karim, Bhavini, Kyra, Sami, Jaden, Sophie, Karishma, Ananya, Hamza

Year 9 C

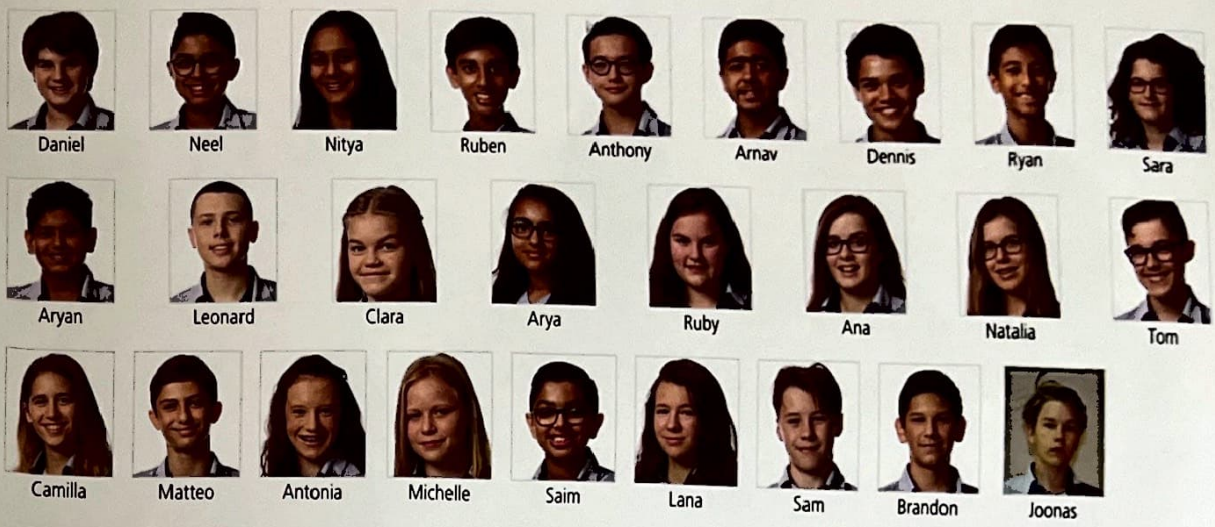


Yasmeen, Raihan, Joshua, Maher, Simran, Victoria, Annabella, Antonio, Oskar

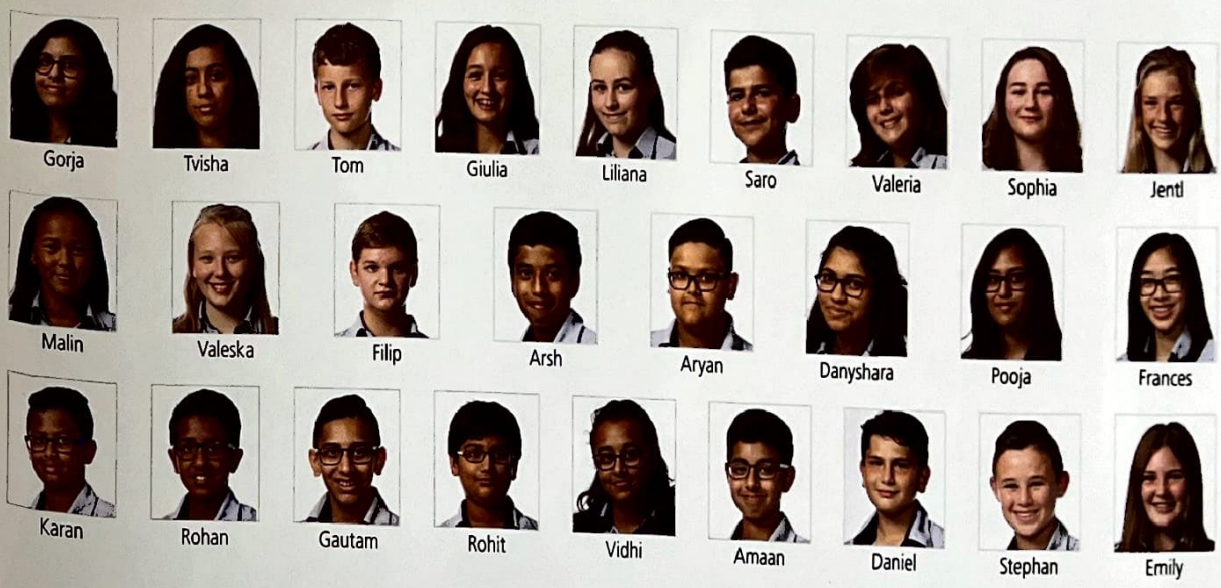
Andrew, Roy, William, Jessica, Aarav, Laila, Christina, Leila

Mehreen, Yasmin, Samaneh, Bolke, Zuha, Mathew, Nadia, Hind, Hamza

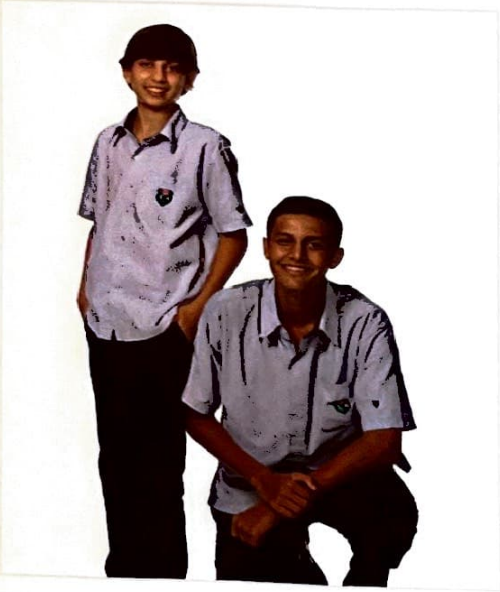
Year 9 D

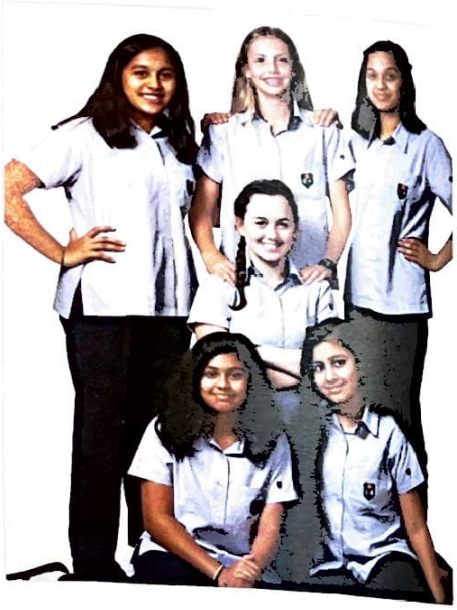


Year 9 E



Year 9A





Year 9B

Year 9C

Year 9D

Year 9E

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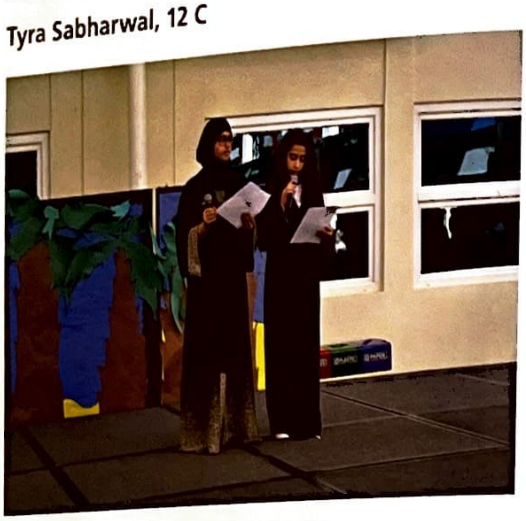
UAE National Day

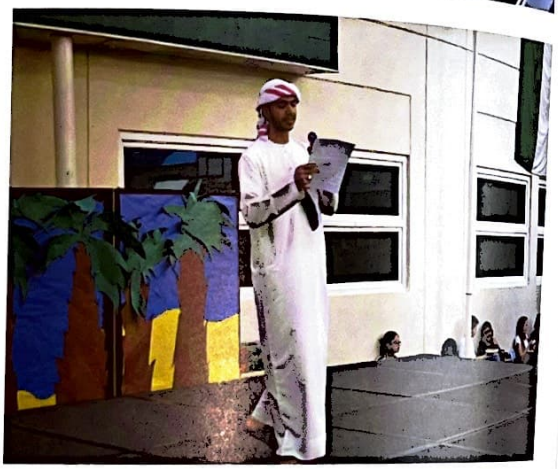
DIA Celebrates the UAE's 45 Years of Growth and Development

To celebrate UAE National Day, the DIA Student Council organised an engaging assembly and a day full of Emirati cultural activities based on the theme of "happiness", on the 29th of November. The assembly was conducted at the beginning of the day and was hosted by my co-chair, Leonardo Chandrawansa, and me. In the assembly, we discussed the UAE's many magnificent achievements over its 45 years of existence. The Student Council also showcased a video outlining the glory of the nation that we are privileged to be living in. But, the most significant elements of the assembly were the speeches by Mr Hamed Kazim and Ali Al Rahma, an alumni of DIA, who both excellently described the positive impact of the development and growth that this country has experienced.

During lunch, events were organised that could help students join in the celebration of the nation. It was an auspicious occasion in which traditional foods were available. Along with that, there was also a showcase of traditional poetry and musical performances which helped in expanding students' knowledge of the nation.

Tyra Sabharwal, 12 C





Eid Assembly

Eid – A Celebration of Good Deeds

On the 8th of September, DIA organised a special assembly to celebrate the Eid-Al-Adha festival. The assembly was commenced by a guest speaker who explained the social significance of the Muslim Hajj to us. He taught us that the Hajj custom successfully manages to unite Muslims from all over the world to turn their undivided attention to their Creator. This time of reflection also helps provide a great opportunity for so many Muslims to leave their individual troubles behind, as is viewed by many as a means to purifying their souls.

After this speech, we watched a few informative videos explaining the rituals performed during Hajj and their respective historical significances, greatly broadening our general knowledge and understanding of Islam. I wish all the pilgrims taking on this journey an enlightening trip, and hope that through the rituals, they feel their compassion, patience, humility, sincerity and honesty grow stronger, following in the footsteps of the Mighty Prophet Abraham (Peace Be Upon Him) and the Holy Prophet Muhammed (Peace Be Upon Him).

Hussein Dawood, 12 B

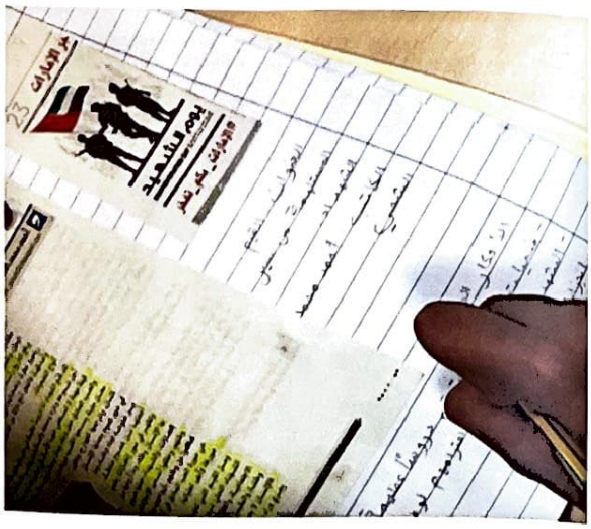
Martyrs' Day

For Martyrs' Day, we did two different activities in Arabic class with Mr Reda. The first activity was that the students got an article about the Martyrs who sacrificed their lives for their country which they had to analyse.

The second activity was that the students had to write letters to either the martyrs' families or mothers, describing how much we appreciate their sacrifices and how much their sons, fathers, and brothers were valued for the safety of this country.

We created a large display which we placed at the front of the school to show the students, parents, and guests of DIA.

Aayah Kamkar – Year 10 Arabic A Class



UN Assembly

Celebrating Unity in Diversity

Unity in Diversity – diversity in terms of all the different flags lighting up our school on a daily basis, and unity in terms of the bond that we all share as human beings. All the students from Secondary School were gathered to celebrate United Nations Day at DIA on the 20th of October, characterized by speeches from the principal and none other than Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Mr Kailash Satyarthi. He very kindly agreed to celebrate the occasion with us, and what a treasure trove of information he was – a true inspiration to us all!

Mr Sathyarthi was very passionate and enthusiastic as he spoke to his audience of 11 to 18 year old students about child labour and youth empowerment. Effortless anecdotes about how he first started his "Bachpan Bachao Andolan" initiative (an organization that began in 1980) iterated in a friendly and wonderfully warm tone, allowed him to spread his values and message to the students seated before him. Bursts of laughter were woven into his eloquent speech, as he delivered his stories.

A Year 12 student, Nirav Passi, shared his thoughts on the assembly: "Mr Satyarthi's speech was highly captivating and motivating. He gave all the students an insight into his vision to end child labour. Furthermore, he actively interacted with the audience which took the assembly to another level altogether! It was an absolute honour to host him at DIA". Furthermore, Mr Sathyarthi's emphasis on recognizing the importance of education and the social evil of child labour caused the audience to reflect on how to improve suffering children's situations.

I strongly believe that Mr Sathyarthi's calm and pleasing demeanour appealed to people of all ages and allowed him to connect with the audience in order for them to understand his message. Adhering to today's time and age of the ubiquitous "selfie", Mr Sathyarthi ensured he finished his inspiring speech with a couple of "selfies" with the students in the audience, ensuring that both his legacy and message would stay with us for a long time.

Shreya Sreeram, 12 F

Overview of Year 10

I am Mr Fitzgerald and I am Head of Year 10. It is my first year as Head of Year and being honest, it has been crazy! This year was filled with high points but what has stood out for me most of all is that the dedication, respect and collaboration in Year 10 is second to none. This year in Year 10 we have had the introduction of BridgeU, Internet Safety Day and the Careers Fair.

The introduction to BridgeU was a huge step forward for Year 10. Now students are able to choose their subjects more effectively and map out their potential futures earlier than ever before! Many students have found BridgeU to be a valuable source for planning for the future. Spending homeroom periods on this has proven very beneficial to us all. We would like to thank Ms Sippy for her help in introducing this to our Year 10 Group.

Internet Safety day was celebrated in homerooms across Year 10. After a short presentation, we set about designing eye-catching posters to promote Internet Safety in our school. We had a few stand out posters which were very effective in their promotion of internet awareness. Well done to all the groups who took part and thank you to the homeroom teachers for assisting with this.

Finally, the highlight of the year for me was the Career Fair on February 14th. It took a long time to plan and prepare for but we got there! We had twenty-eight professionals who gave mini-seminars to our Year 10 students from Periods 1-3. The whole event buzzed with excitement, intrigue and learning. Both our students and the professionals involved walked away from this event enriched in a very positive way. Thank you to our volunteers, our parent representatives and Mr Jennings for their support.

Looking forward to next year, we have another list to tick off: Personal Project, E-Assessment, E-Portfolio and Work Placement are just the beginning. I look forward to another year to guide you in reaching for your dreams, inspiring others and achieving to your full potential.

Enjoy the summer,

Mr Fitzgerald

Overview of Year 10

The Year 10s Get Their First Glimpses of the Real World at DIA's Career Fair

Year 10 Student Opinions on the Career Fair:

"The annual Career Fair for DIA's Year 10 students on the 14th of February this year showed so many of us how to turn our dreams into realities. I spoke to four parents who all work in different industries. They covered every aspect of their jobs and gave me a detailed understanding of their exact tasks so that I had a better idea about what streams I would be interested in pursuing. The Career Fair helped me find out first-hand about the hard work we have to do to achieve our dreams, and also the struggles and successes we find along the way."

Paavnee Misra

"At the Career Fair, there were many different career options available for us, ranging from presentations by doctors to lawyers to architects. The speeches gave me a clear idea on the different careers I could pursue, and what subjects I should take to support these careers."

Adhvaitha Hitesh

"The Career Fair was extremely successful. It was very helpful to see different career choices and hear about them from people who work in those fields every day. It was an enlightening experience and I think everyone learnt something about what they would like to do in the future."

Minaa Hamid

"The Career Fair was a really useful experience for me as I learnt new facts about each career I was interested in. It has greatly influenced me and the decisions I will take in terms of my future. The presenters answered various questions that had been circling around my head for a very long time."

Anisha Vatnani

"The Career Fair helped me finally decide on my career path and truly cleared any doubts I had. The path I have now chosen is Travel and Tourism, and also includes Business, a stream that greatly interests me. The fair was an eye-opening experience for me, so I hope it benefits future Year 10 students as well."

Kavyaa Modak

"The Career Fair was very informative and helped me learn new things about various different careers. Most of all, it helped me make some important decisions related to my future, such as my subject choices and university preferences. Overall, it was extremely helpful."

Mihir Vittalam

"In my opinion, the Career Fair was a rewarding opportunity where we got to understand which subjects and jobs we wanted to lean towards, and how to start creating a personal career path. I am thankful that we were able to communicate with parents from different professions to aid us in our choices."

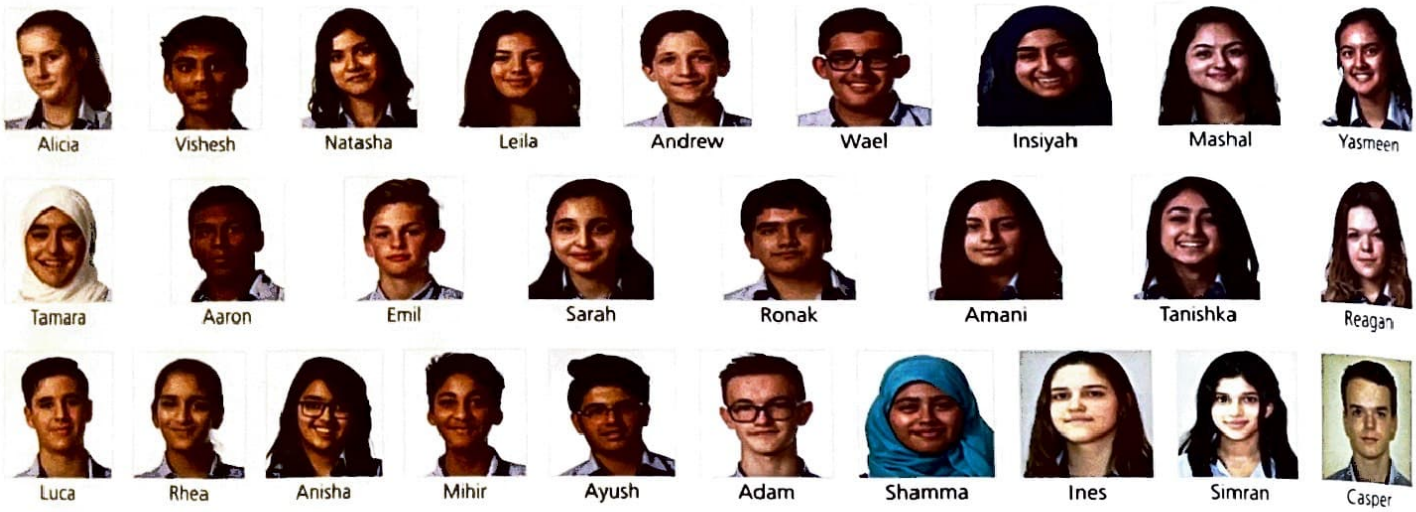
Mashal Iqbal

Thoughts from a Parent Presenter at the Career Fair:

"Presenting at the Career Fair was quite nostalgic for me, as I remember sitting on the other side of that table about 30 years ago. The kids were all eager to learn more about the different careers being presented by parents; what we all enjoyed about our jobs; and how we broke into the job industry in the first place. There were some students who asked about what types of projects I do, and others who jumped right to asking how much I charge for my work. My personal reflection was to realise that there are so many career options, and that there are really no wrong or right jobs. The important thing is to build your skills, grab opportunities when they arise, work hard, and enjoy what you do!"

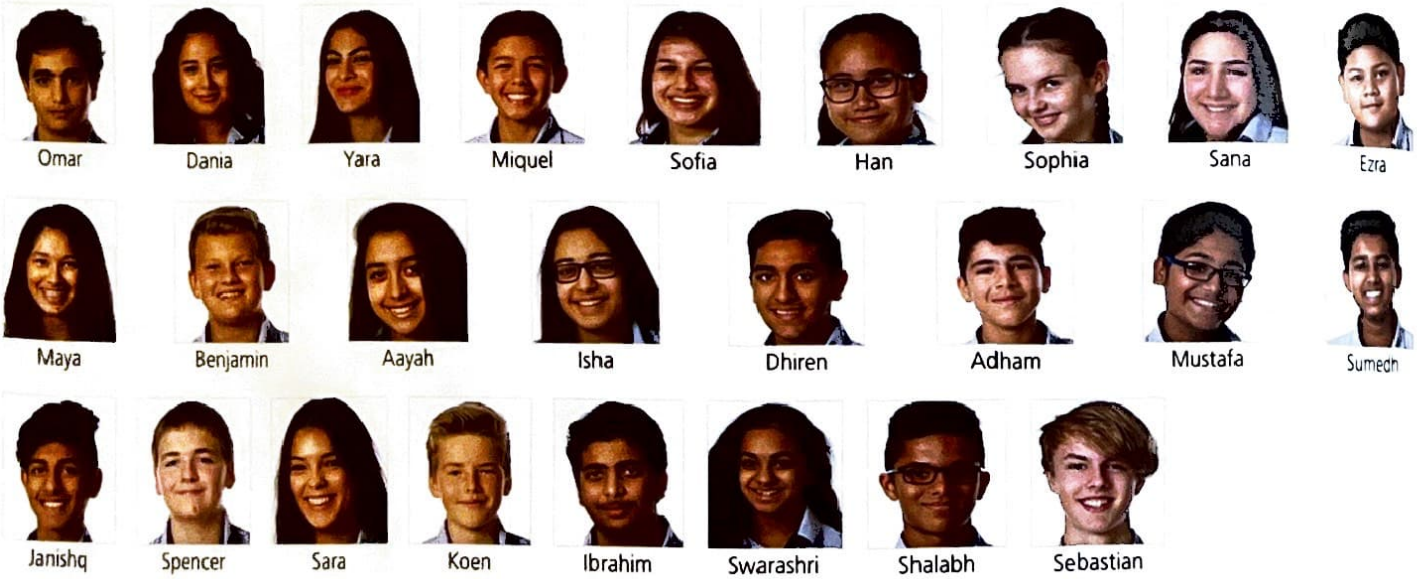
Phillip Rice

Year 10 A

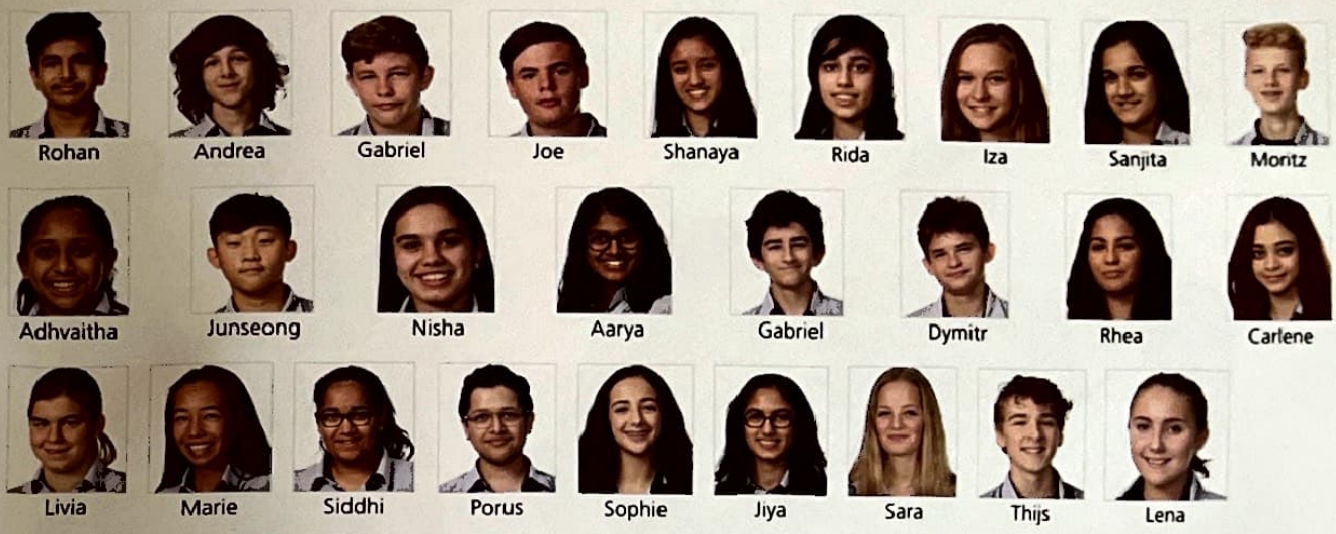


Year 10 B

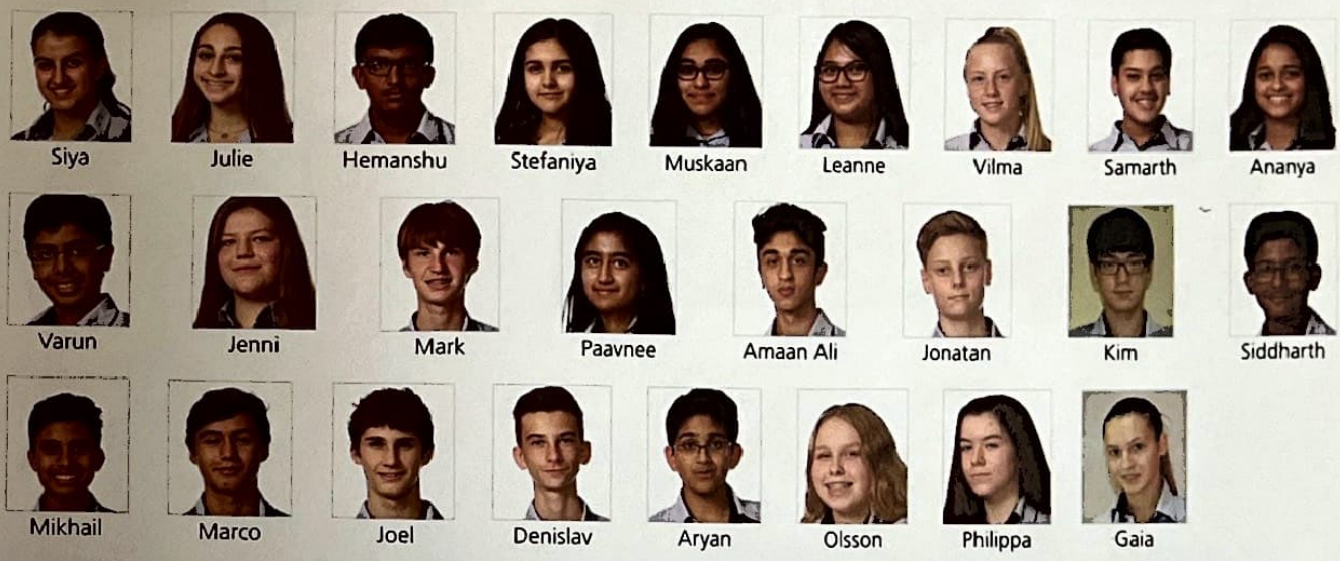
Year 10 C



Year 10 D



Year 10 E



Year 10A

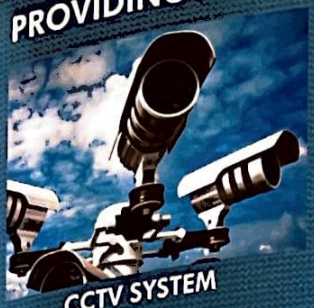
Year 10B

Year 10C

Year 10D

Year 10E

PROVIDING SAFETY SOLUTIONS SINCE 2008



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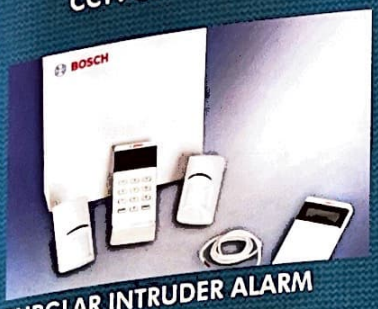

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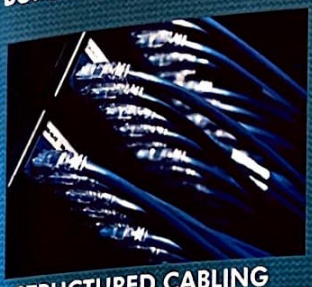

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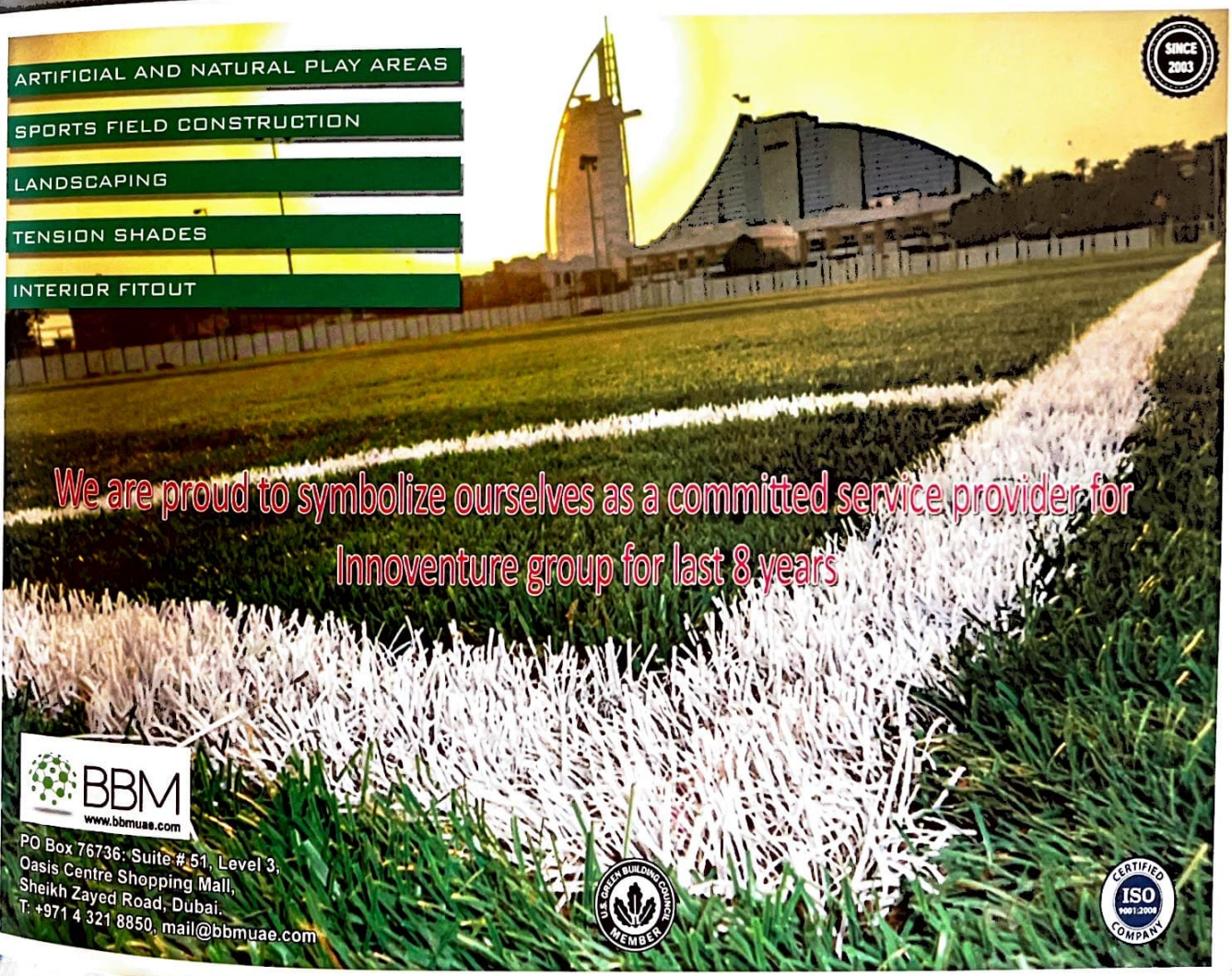


Overview of Year 11

I am Ms Asha Kumar, Head of Year 11. To me this has been a very challenging year in many ways, not least because of the 157 Year 11 students with their six homerooms from 11 A to 11 F being the biggest group in the school (in terms of their numbers) to manage.

I feel proud to represent this group who have shown that they are capable of working hard and handling a variety of tasks at the same time. To them I say you've done your school proud with your achievements.

I am especially pleased that the students designed their own polo shirts, which were gifted to them by PADIA, and which they wear with pride on Thursdays. Some of our students have climbed mountains this year and traversed coastlines in DOE adventures. Others have attended GATEway quizzes and represented DIA in an international math competition in Bremen, Germany. I tell you folks, what a great bunch of students we have here!

This year, the Year 11s were introduced to the "Bridge U" programme by Mrs Rachana Sippy, our student counsellor. The students convened a special assembly where they were told how they could use this programme to find universities according to their subject choices. The students found this very useful, and I have great hopes that they will go on to join the programme of their choice.

All through the year, our students have had the privilege of attending informational assemblies such as Internet Safety Day, Water for Life, CPR (for life saving), on screen exams, and Careers options.

This year our students also involved themselves in E-Assessments and E-Portfolios. These featured a whole section for new students who are completely new to the MYP programme and yet have managed to complete their tasks without issues.

To conclude, I can say that the Year 11 Class of 2016 – 17 have been a powerhouse of innovation and creativity who have pushed boundaries and come out as champions, and I suspect that they're just getting started! Thank you to all the teachers and admin staff, who have helped us complete this journey.

I look forward to next year, as they bid goodbye to the IBMYP programme and move on to face the new challenges of the DP programme.

Asha Kumar
Head of Year 11

Overview of Year 11

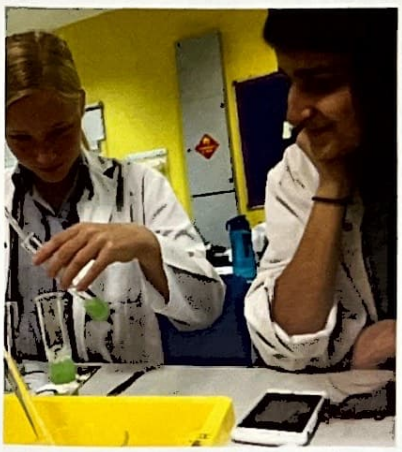
Hi my name is Aditya Rathi, and this was my journey through Year 11.

The start of the year was tough: losing a few friends, gaining a lot more with the new students, and meeting the new teachers. As soon as the year started we were flooded, like never before, with assessments and activities. Even before we introduced ourselves in class, we had homework due for the next day. Year 11, was not going to be easy.

The Personal Project came along soon after, along with a single idea that kept my mind moving. I wanted to transfer my passion for space, my hobby of filmmaking and my interest in research and development. For this, I made a YouTube channel where I uploaded nearly 80 minutes of content about Space and Exploration. For nearly every day of the first week, I had the smell of the chemicals from the Chemistry experiments cling to my skin.

If you are in Year 10 coming to Year 11 next year, there is just one piece of advice I would like to pass on and that would be (and you will have probably heard it hundreds of times already) - "Do not procrastinate". Do not leave your 26-page Economics essay until the last day; don't delay your assignments, and especially not your Personal Project. I am no expert in the psychology of a Year 11 student, but I can tell you this much/ respect your teachers, work hard in class and you will have a fun, stress-free (I doubt it though) and enthralling conclusion to your IBMYP experience.

Aditya Rathi



Suhas's long line of potential prom dates had their hearts crushed as he'd executed his famed "promposal". That event is basically a culmination of what this year has been like for all us MYP Seniors. What a memorable year in all our lives: academic year of 2016-2017 in Year 11 at DIA!

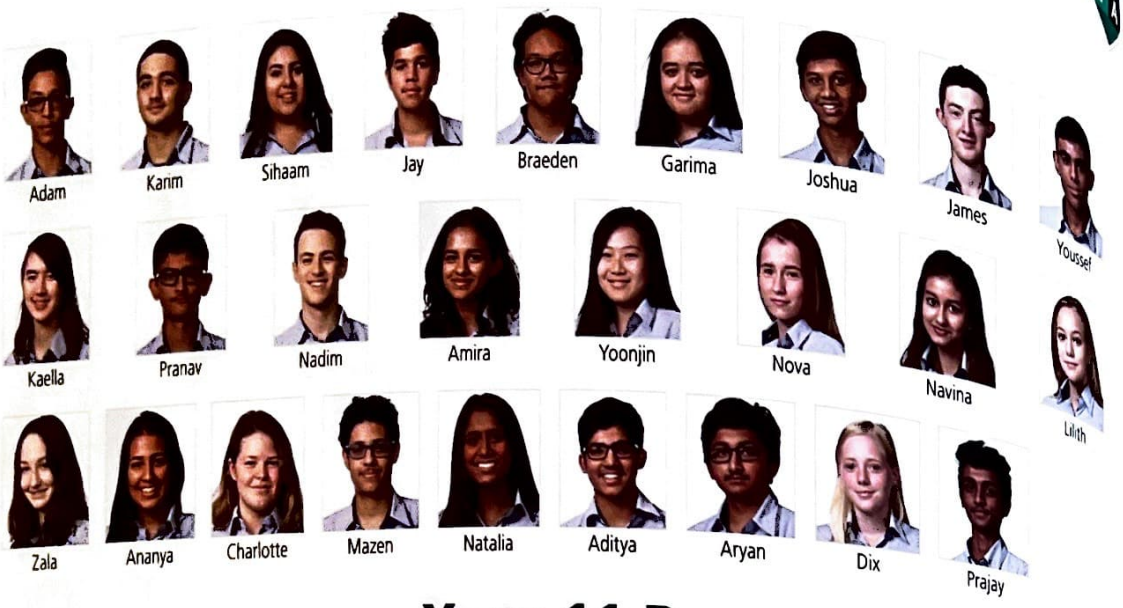
The year started with expanding our family by welcoming a large group of new students! It wasn't too long before our workload skyrocketed. From pulling many 'all-nighters' working together to finish essays and projects; to sitting through last minute Physics & Chemistry crash courses; to investigating week-after-week as we work towards completing our Personal Projects. This year was one filled with debates about Donald Trump, Sea World and climate change in addition to memes and much guilty-procrastination too!

Every day in this academic year has been a roller-coaster ride with a combination of ups and downs, a fast pace, but also a thrill of an adventure! We've learnt many lessons and have had subject-rich experiences, shown in the completion of our E-Portfolios, Personal Project, mock E-Assessments and in all our in-class assessments too! However, the memories that'll go a long way with each of us are the cheeky tricks we pulled in class and all the hilarious encounters we've had with teachers using the universal remote to play with the projector, putting on fake updates, having our phones confiscated, and constantly having to be addressed about our uniform infringements. The BYOD technology has played a massive role in our lives; aiding us in research, completing tasks, staying on top of news, sharing our resources and staying connected with teachers too. Along with those, we've also managed to have our inboxes abounded with prom e-mails, have prom conflicts on the Facebook group, Snapchat our journey at 'all-nighters' and banter on the infamous Lit Group. Moreover, receiving our jerseys and hoodies for respective school teams gave us the much-needed booster and pride to strive for success. Similarly, having each one of our names inscribed on the Year 11 MMXIX shirt, brings us together and reminds us to always DREAM B19.

We're coming to the end of the MYP, ready to face IB with utmost resilience. As seniors, we're looked up to by our younger peers, we have the power to influence their actions and build our world! I am a firm believer that the youth of today is a part and parcel of our society and our future. Hence to make the world a better place and envision a prosperous future, we have a responsibility of helping one another! Here's to a great MYP and an amazing last two years!

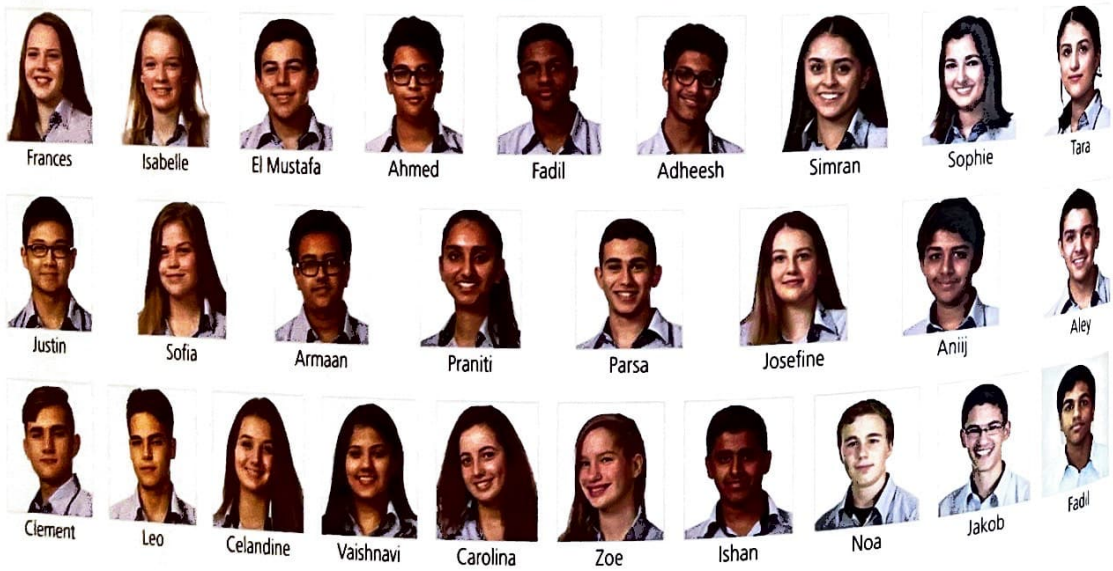
Ananya Mirchandani, Year 11A

Year 11 A

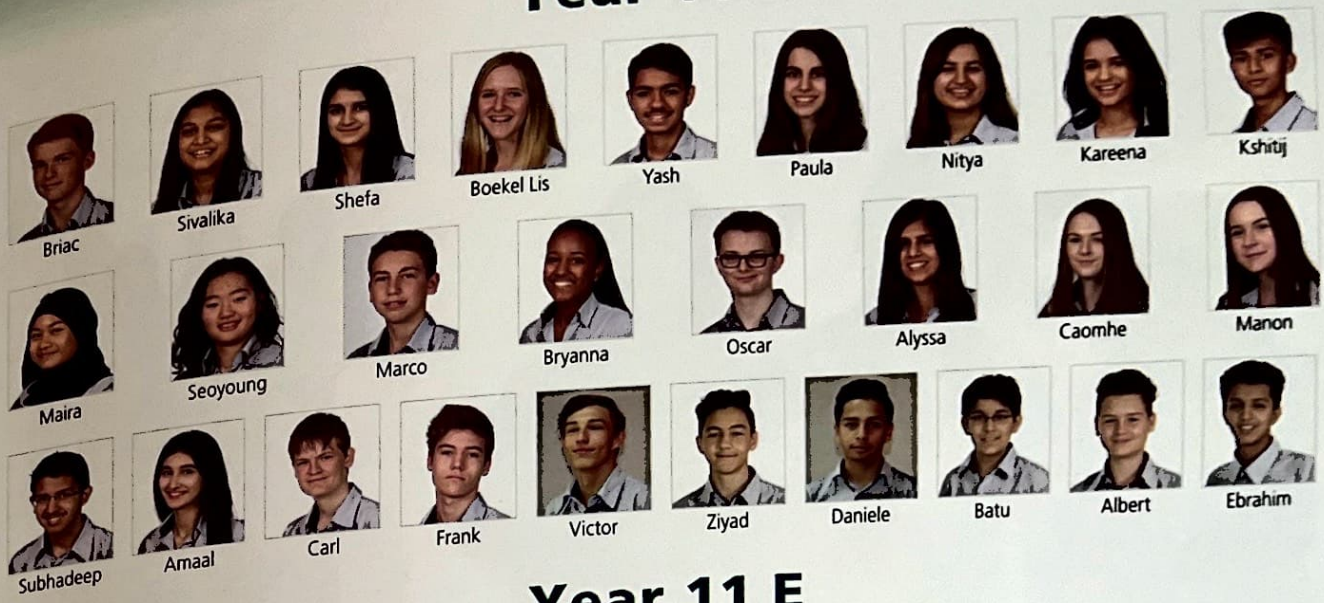


Year 11 B

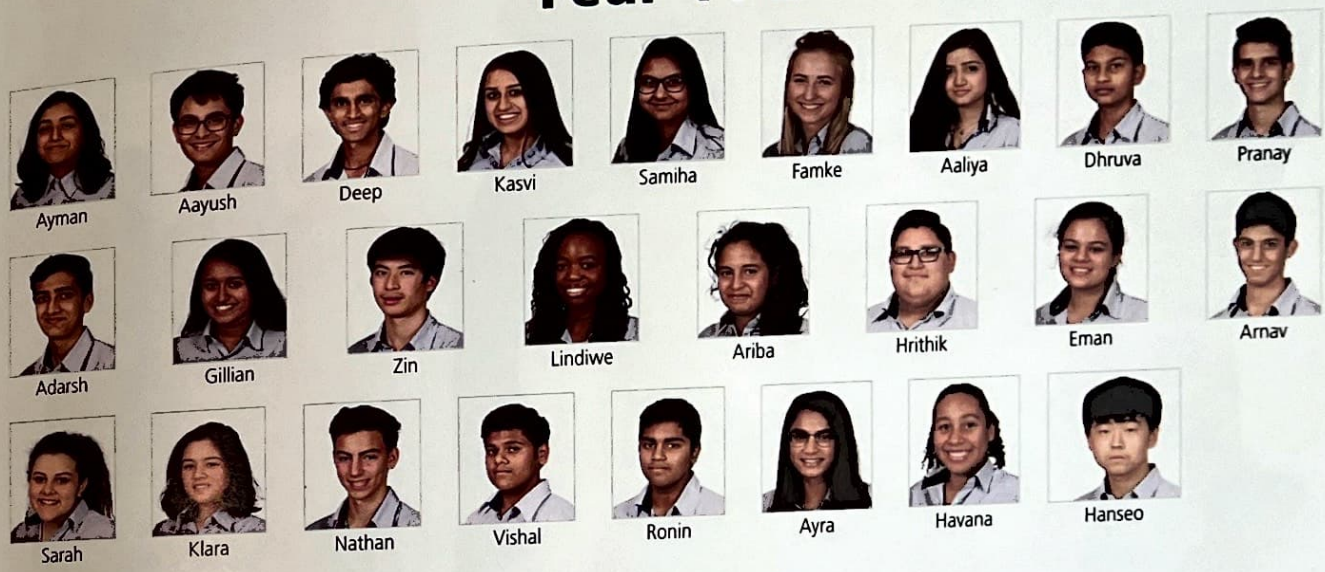
Year 11 C



Year 11 D



Year 11 E

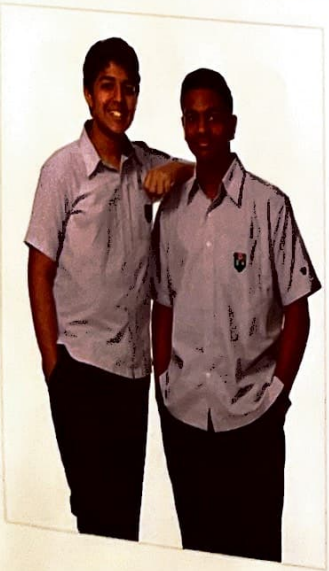


Year 11 F

Year 11A

Year 11B

Year 11C



Year 11D

Year 11E

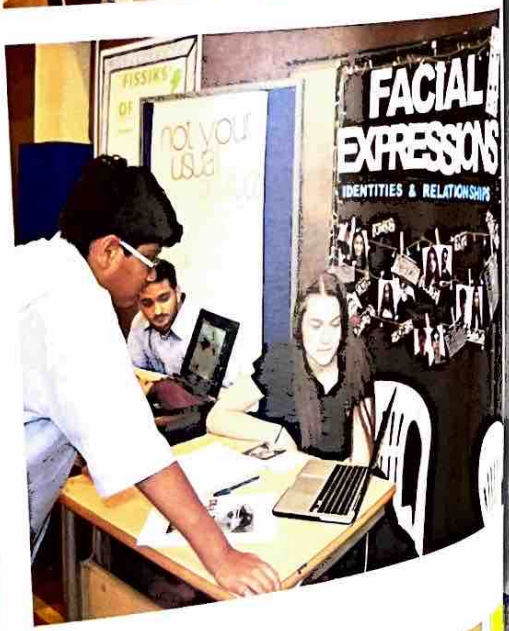
Year 11F

Year 11 Personal Project

Personal Projects are challenging. They challenge students to push the boundaries of their learning while encouraging them to participate in sustained, self-directed enquiry within a global context.

The 2016 Year 11 cohort did an outstanding job showcasing their learning at the annual DIA PP exhibition. Displays included: fashion, community care, writing, the arts, the environment, cooking and science to name a few.

The exhibition was extremely well attended from DIA VIPs, parents, secondary and primary students and other Dubai MYP schools.



Class - 11A 2016-2017

Class - 11B 2016-2017

MYP Graduation

Class - 11C 2016-2017

Class - 11D 2016-2017

MYP Graduation

Class - 11E 2016-2017

Class - 11F 2016-2017

World Scholar's Cup

Saranya, Sreenidhi, Naeema (Year 12)

World Scholar's Club "The World Scholar's Cup Round 0 took place on the 9th and 10th of December at The New Millenium School, Al-Khail. Three teams from our school took part in the various different rounds: the debate, collaborative writing, scholar's challenge and scholar's bowl. It was an amazing experience getting to work with my team, researching topics and looking into different perspectives relating to the theme of this year which was "An Imperfect World". Our team bagged the overall 5th position in Dubai along with other accolades. It was a great opportunity to enhance our collaborative skills and a fun learning experience. We hope to go back next year and do our best in representing our esteemed institution."

"After countless hours of research and hard work, we achieved our goal and made it to our dream destination: the World Scholar's Cup. As we walked through the entrance, we could feel the excitement, the nervousness and the fear run through us. For us, it didn't matter if we won awards or got to the global round as it was our very first time.

Karan, Arnav & Aryan (Year 9)

Our WSC journey began with our first debate. Many things ran through our minds but mostly the goal: to have a well-run, fruitful debate. Arnav was the first speaker in all the debates; whose role it was to firstly give a quote, describe the key words in the motion and the rebuttal, and provide a few points on the opposition team's debate. Aryan went as the second speaker, summarizing Arnav's points and rebutted a few others. Karan was the third and last speaker, rebutting all the opposed points and making a few important ones himself. Although we lost our first debate, we won the next two! We also had to write short stories, in which our team was first! Overall, our experience was supercalifragilisticexpialidocious and we look forward to Round 1, 2 and the Globals. We hope to excel in all and make our school proud!

Lara, Sehar, Zara (Year 8)

"When we first arrived at the World Scholar's Cup we were very nervous, but also excited. We were about to do something we had never done before and so, didn't know what to expect. Of course, there were going to be debates and other activities, but we didn't know how well we would do or if we would qualify. However, during the course of the next two days, we were having so much fun that we soon forgot about our worries completely. It was an amazing experience and was really worth all the hard work and determination for the competition. As a group, we were strong and had the most fun at Debating and Collaborative Writing. We lost our first debate, but won our next two, which was a great sign of improvement. We not only had a lot of fun, but also had a chance to improve on many of our skills. We are really proud to have won 2nd place among all 120 schools in Collaborative Writing. Overall, we think everyone should participate as it was an amazing way to learn new skills, test our knowledge, and compete with people from different schools and different parts of the world."

Jai, Sahay & Sameekshaa (Year 8)

"On the weekend of March 10-11, two teams from DIA took part in Round 1 of the World Scholar's Cup, which was held at two different locations (Sunmarke School and AUD respectively). It was a huge opportunity for us to develop our debating skills, spend time with our teammates, and to interact and learn from people coming from all over the world to participate.

The four main events were: the Scholar's Bowl, Scholar's Challenge, Team Debate, and the Collaborative Writing. The Scholar's Bowl was a team event involving a clicker. A series of questions were displayed on a screen with answer choices ranging from A-E. Within the set time limit, the questions had to be answered by pressing the button with the corresponding answer on the clicker. This event allowed us to work as a team to utilise the information we had learned in advance relating to the theme (An Unlikely World).

The Scholar's Challenge was an extremely difficult multiple choice test where each team member was required to participate individually. The Challenge consisted of different sections for each subject.

The Team Debate was exactly what it sounds like, a debate carried out by a team against another team.

The Collaborative Writing involved a list of topics: each team member was required to choose a topic and then write a short academic or creative essay. During this writing task, team collaboration and individual writing time was allotted.

Also, a fuzzy life-time friend was assigned to each and every scholar - ALPACAS! At the end of the entire event, there was a closing ceremony where scholars received their rewards and danced in joy to the melodious music of cheerful screaming! We loved the debate, because it gave us the opportunity to express our opinions in a way that was still serious but a lot more informal than other forms of debate. Though the Challenge was difficult, it was exhilarating at the same time, as it definitely lived up to its name! Overall, we found the entire experience amazingly rewarding and strongly recommended students from all over the world to give it a try."

Abdulrahman & Diya'a (Year 9)

"The World Scholar's Cup is always a good experience, especially if you go with a close friend; it strengthens your bond and creates memories that will last for a lifetime. This was the third World Scholar's Cup round we have been to and every year it gets better and better. From the dreaded Scholar's Challenge to the talent-filled Scholar's Show, it was truly a weekend to remember. This year was the World Scholar's Cup 10th anniversary in Dubai and it brought students from Lebanon, Nigeria, Kazakhstan, and all over the world - a great opportunity for us to meet different people and experience different cultures, which I believe is one of the main goals of the World Scholar's Cup.

When I first started taking part in the World Scholar's Cup, I had very little confidence and I could barely speak in front of a small audience. But, as soon as the debates started it was like magic and I ended up winning all three debates. Now, three years later, I'm regularly on stage giving speeches and debating passionately without fear. The World Scholar's Cup has changed me as a person for the better. If it wasn't for the enriching experience, I never would have met the people I met and I would still be the shy student I was three years ago. No other event combines the elements of school and learning with the elements socialising and having fun like the World Scholar's Cup. If you have not tried it, I strongly encourage you to; it's an experience like no other and personally I can't wait till next year."

DIA Talent Show

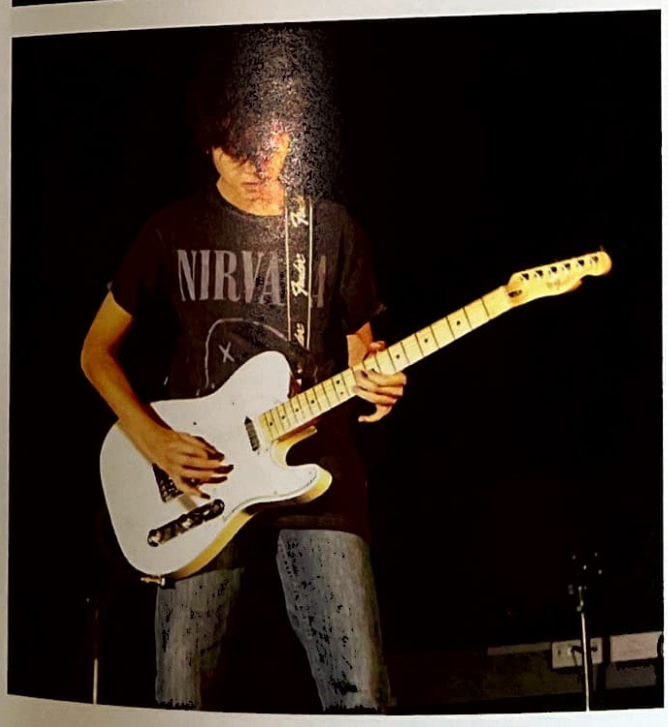
The Superstars of DIA Shine on Stage

When I heard about DIA's secondary school DIAPHONICS talent show, I immediately collaborated with three of my friends with whom I share a great passion for music. We had just under a month to fine-tune our performance, between auditions on the 26th of October and the actual show on the 24th of November, but we managed to soar through the auditions, and even get through to the finals, held in the DIA Secondary School PE hall.

In total, there were 16 acts that had qualified through to the finals, with one of these 16 acts being our group, "Gold Illusion". The main categories were: Best Junior Solo Act (won by young Year 7 singer Jure Mazej who sang "Time to Say Goodbye"); Best Senior Solo Act (won by singer-songwriter Siya Arora who performed her original song "One Day"); Best Dance Act (won by Bollywood dancer Deep Bhatia); and Best Group Act (won by Year 13 poets Haya Sardar, Olivia Simoni and Natasha Carpenter-Frank, who recited their original poem "Produce" as their group, "The Quiet Riot").

Everyone in the finals was extremely talented and I thoroughly enjoyed watching them display their talent. Personally, I was immensely nervous when the event was about to commence. This was, after all, my first ever stage performance in front of such a huge audience, consisting of all the students of Years 7 to 10! However, after watching all the other acts, I grew much calmer; each and every performer's stage presence was inspiring. So by the time it was my group's turn to perform, I was ready to have the time of my life with my fellow singers and friends, and I did! From this experience, the key lesson I learnt is that believing in yourself can help you do wonders. It just takes dedication, confidence and hard work to achieve your goals, and fun inevitably joins in along the way!

Shivani Ayyar, 12 E



International Award

A Grueling DOE Bronze Trek in the Bright, Bronzing Sun

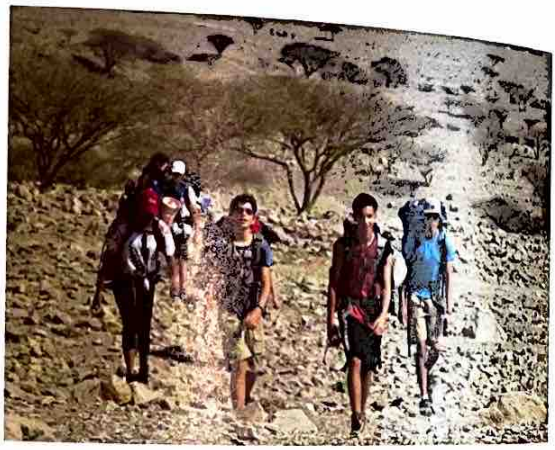
The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Assessment took place 10th to 11th of February this year. This was an exciting experience for all the participating Year 10 students as we encountered the adventurous journey, while seeking to achieve our goals that varied from searching for flora and fauna to creating vlogs of the ups and downs of our adventure. Moreover, we used our newly acquired navigational skills to find our way through gruelling treks in mountainous areas using a map and compass. On our small expeditions we came into contact with the remains of several plants and animals, through which many of our goals were accomplished. Additionally, with groups often getting lost on the way, we all had to build on our teamwork and thinking skills in order to work together to find our way back to the campsite, which only increased our enjoyment of the challenging experience.

When we completed the last journey of our first day and finally returned to the campsite, we couldn't help sighing in relief. At the campsite, we worked collaboratively to set up our own tents, and then used stoves to cook our own finger-licking, fantastic food including risotto and even freshly cooked pasta. We also got some relaxation time to ourselves at the bonfire while roasting marshmallows and humming to the tunes Mr Mulhern played on his ukulele.

The next day was an early start for all groups as we had to wake up, make our own breakfasts, pack up our tents and camping bags, and clear the campsite before we embarked on another tiring yet rewarding 20 kilometres of hiking. By the end of the trip, most of us were exhausted and had aching limbs, but the sheer fun of the trip and the sense of togetherness that we managed to develop along the course of our journey all made up for the pain and made this trek truly memorable. From getting lost to finally reaching the next checkpoint, each step of the way was a new memory on its own. This trip managed to strengthen us not just physically by giving us the confidence that we can successfully hike over 30 kilometres, but also mentally by making us more confident and motivated individuals overall. It has made us much stronger than any of us could have ever imagined.

However, the assessment is not over yet! Students need to complete 13 hours of work on physical activity, any skill, and service to achieve their Bronze Award. But, I am sure that all of us are up to the challenge after achieving such a tiring feat. Looking back on the trip, I would like to thank EcoVenture for helping us at the training expedition, and Mr Mulhern and Ms Tomiuk for being such supportive supervisors and arranging this trip for us.

Paavnee Misra, Year 10



DIAMUN 2017

DIAMUN 2017 – the Dubai International Academy's Model United Nations - a yearly event, took place from 15th to 18th March. The conference saw close to 1,000 middle and high school students from 45 schools around the world who met to discuss issues around the theme "International Response to Global Conflict." The conference was hosted at the American University in Dubai and the DIA school campus.

The conference, which was led exclusively by students, is now in its ninth year of operation. It is one of the Middle East's first THIMUN (The Hague International Model United Nations) affiliated conferences, as well as the only one in the United Arab Emirates. Student delegates from the GCC, Armenia, India, Malawi, Nairobi, Oman, Philippines, Tanzania, Turkey and Uganda were present at the conference.

The opening ceremony was truly a sight to behold – with some stunning and thought-provoking performances around the theme of the conference. Our delegates were poised and conducted the evening with grace and élan. The visiting dignitaries, directors, and parents all proclaimed how wonderful the evening was.

The next three days saw these students at their very best – discussing and debating issues of global significance. It was evident that every delegate had prepared for their part and fulfilled it perfectly. The three days reaffirmed that our young citizens believe firmly in working towards a better future for everyone.

There was some light relief provided on the second evening where all delegates and their directors were invited to dinner and some dancing at the JW Marriott Marquis Hotel. It was an immensely enjoyable evening, and the DIA MUN Director, Mr Vikas remarked, 'It is wonderful to see the delegates relaxing and having an excellent time before the final day of the conference.'

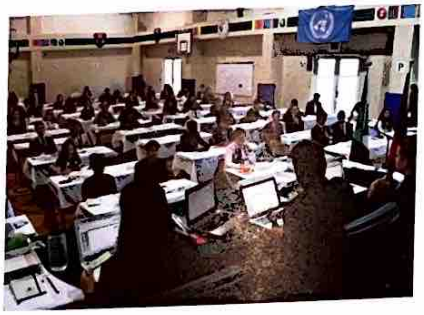
Ms Poonam Bhojani, CEO of Innoventures Education, highlighted, "DIAMUN is a platform for students to debate global issues in a setting that mirrors the real world. From plausible solutions to critical global issues, the conference provides students with insights on how to diplomatically evaluate situations, engage in critical thinking, troubleshooting, and discussing globally relevant topics. Through this conference, we aim to bring together a variety of students from diverse backgrounds to debate, develop writing and public speaking skills, and effectively problem solve – therefore contributing to their growth as leaders and future diplomats." And over the three days, this was precisely what happened. After the final speeches, and the best delegate prize awarded, all delegates left with a smile on their mouths, and hope in their hearts, and we await DIAMUN 2018.

Meena Nambiar and Vikas Singh, MUN Directors

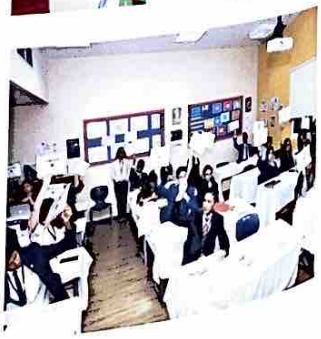
DIAMUN 2017

DIAMUN
A THIMUN-AFFILIATED CONFERENCE
International Response to Global Conflict

URUGUAY

DIAMUN
2017


International Response
to Global Conflict



MUN

Debating by the Parthenon

This year, I, along with 20 other Year 12 students, embarked on an unforgettable trip to Athens, Greece, to attend the annual CGSMUN conference held there. Little did we know that we would leave the short 5-day trip with a whole barrage of memories that we would cherish forever.

We departed for our trip on the 11th of December. As soon as we landed in Athens, we were besotted with the impeccable beauty and timeless charm of this old-style city. Without wasting any time, we eagerly began exploring the city and took in all the beautiful sights with awe. The next day we were scheduled for a full tour around the city, during which we were taken to the Acropolis, the Parthenon, and the Acropolis Museum. After a tiring day of sight-seeing, we returned to the hotel, relaxed and went out as a group to have dinner at one of the locally known restaurants.

The third day was an important one for all of us as it marked the beginning of the CGSMUN conference. We were all up and ready by 8 am, ready to display our skills as good debaters and confident speakers in the forthcoming days of debate. The three days of the conference seemed to fly by as each of us represented our respective committees for about nine hours each day. It is safe to say that the students of DIA definitely made a mark across all the committees throughout the three days of fruitful debat centered on matters of international relevance.

We are all extremely grateful for the teachers who accompanied us on the trip (Ms Corleen and Mr Vikas) who gave us all their guidance. We had the best time possible. We left Greece more knowledgeable, wiser and more confident in our abilities regarding MUN and conflict resolution. It was, without a doubt, an experience of a lifetime which will stay in our hearts and minds for eternity.

Shreya Sreeram, 12 F

A group of students from Year 12 attended the Costeas-Geitonas School Model United Nations (CGSMUN) for its 11th annual conference. The conference was a wonderful opportunity for all students to discuss issues of global significance and meet new people in the heart of Athens. When students weren't preparing for the conference, they enjoyed street food in one of Athens's famous squares. They also got a chance to see some of Athens's major tourist locations including the Acropolis, Acropolis Museum and The Parthenon.

Taarika Rajani Year 12

THIMUN Hague

The theme for THIMUN Hague 2017 was "borders in a globalized world", completely apt in the context evolving around us. The conference, attracting over 3,500 students from 200 schools around the world, is the biggest global Model UN conference to exist, and was founded in 1981, making it the oldest by far. This year, DIA's assigned delegation was Uruguay, and with delegates spanning committees such as the Security Council and the Disarmament Commissions, we had quite a striking presence. As if that was not enough, two of our students, Sara Atassi and Dharkann Sainani had the opportunity to serve as student officers and were extremely diligent and effective in handling their assigned positions.

Throughout the period of the five-day conference, we were able to witness an unprecedented level of debate, while being exposed to issues imperative to the twenty-first century. Personally, it was also heart-warming to witness the countless efforts of UN aid agencies such as the UNHRC and UNICEF, which had set up stalls at the entrance of the building and constantly encouraged delegates to contribute to their causes. As students who are blessed over our heads and food on our tables, we often wonder if our efforts to multinational agencies providing humanitarian aid are helpful, and seeing the work done by past UN agencies and the ones present at the conference really put things into perspective.

Apart from time spent at the conference, we were also allotted a couple of days to explore Amsterdam and a small hamlet called Vollendam, during which we visited the Van Gogh museum, the Anne Frank House, a cheese factory, a clog factory, and windmills, among many other attractions. As Vishank Rughwani, a delegate of the Disarmament Commission puts it, "it gave me an up close and personal view of European culture and history otherwise difficult to access in Dubai."

In retrospect, our trip to The Hague not only gave us access to an MUN conference unlike any of us have seen before, but also to Dutch history and culture - something we all cherished and learned from. Without a doubt, every one of us who attended can say that we learned more than we ever thought we would, not only about our assigned topics at hand, but about ourselves as well.

Aanya Bahl

Overview of Year 12

A Statement of a Life in Time of a Year 12

There have been quite a few highlights of this academic year for me, starting with the Nepal CAS trip. We had an amazing time helping children by teaching them the skills of white water rafting in the cold and frightening rivers of Nepal, and that is just a tip of the iceberg. It has been quite a hectic year as well for us, since we had to balance our MUN try-outs for local and international MUN trips to Greece, Netherlands and Qatar as well as keeping track of our studies while doing so. There have been many trips made by the various sports teams as well such as the Varsity cricket tour to India.

Then, coming to the DP exams: we all prepared through the Winter break in order to be completely focused on achieving the highest marks possible in the DP1 mid-year exams. Apart from all the co-curricular activities and academics, we all had a blast at the DP retreat after our exams had passed, which made us bond as a year group and unite with one another.

Some advice for the future cohorts are firstly, never be on the bad side of a teacher, it will always harm and discourage you in your work ethics. Secondly, work closely with the college counsellors as they will be the key to your admissions to your dream universities. Lastly, don't try and push your studies as a higher priority than co-curricular activities or vice versa as it will harm both the social and academic aspects of your DP life. Some ideas on planning for the future are: firstly, it would be well recommended to pursue what you most enjoy and have a passion for rather than doing something your parents or friends have chosen.

"The academic year 2016-17 has been a spectacular year for the DP1s. Agreeably, the DP retreat has been a highlight for all of us as we made some new friends and had an amazing time with one another while embarking on activities from white water rafting to fun bus rides. The only advice we can give to the future DP1s is to make sure that "whatever you do, be passionate and dedicated". And also, "give yourself a break from time to time!" This year has been life changing for us as a lot of us have discovered ourselves, set goals for the future after graduation and pushed ourselves to be the absolute best that we can be.

Thank you

Aakriti Badyal
Message to Year 12 Students

DP Retreaters

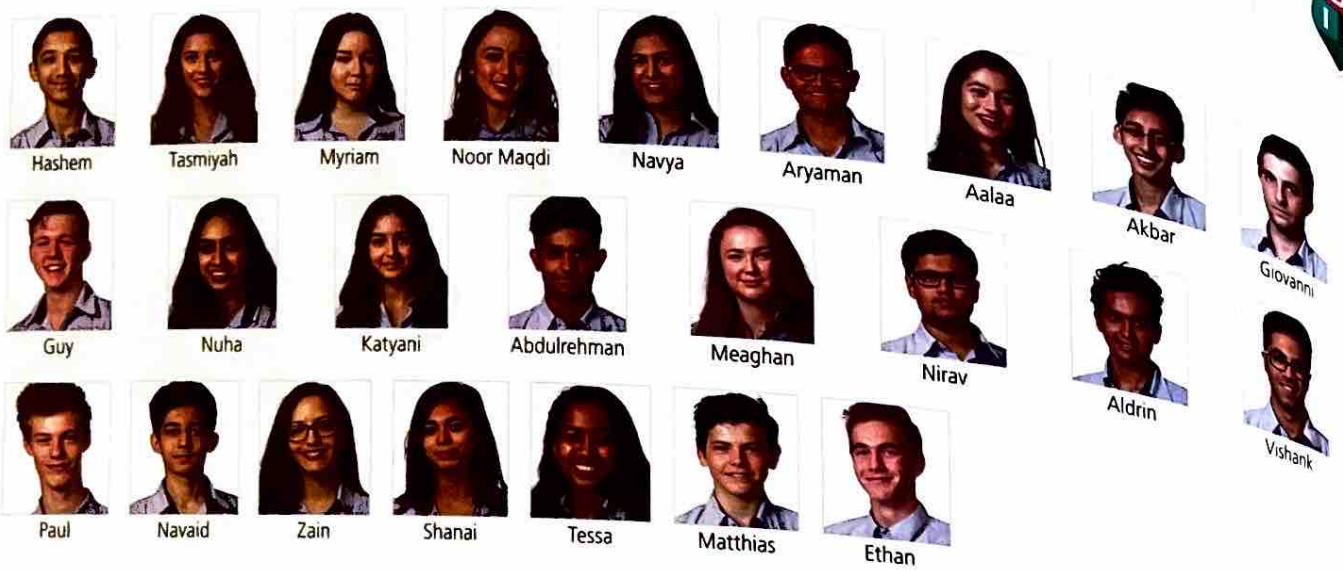
This year the DP1 Head of Year, Mr Kelly, worked tirelessly with a handful of distinguished members of staff, and some DP1 students, to organize the annual DP retreat, which took place from the 23rd to the 24th of February. It was a great weekend of fun and relaxation for DIA's hardworking Year 12 students.

As part of our retreat, we travelled to Al Ain and spent a night at the Rotana Hotel. During our stay, we were given helpful guidelines for many critical elements of the Diploma Programme: the Extended Essay, universities, MLA citations, Theory of Knowledge, and CAS. In order to ensure a work-play balance, we were also taken to the "Wadi Adventure" park. Here, we took part in a variety of outdoor activities including white-water rafting, zip-lining, and relaxing in wave pools.

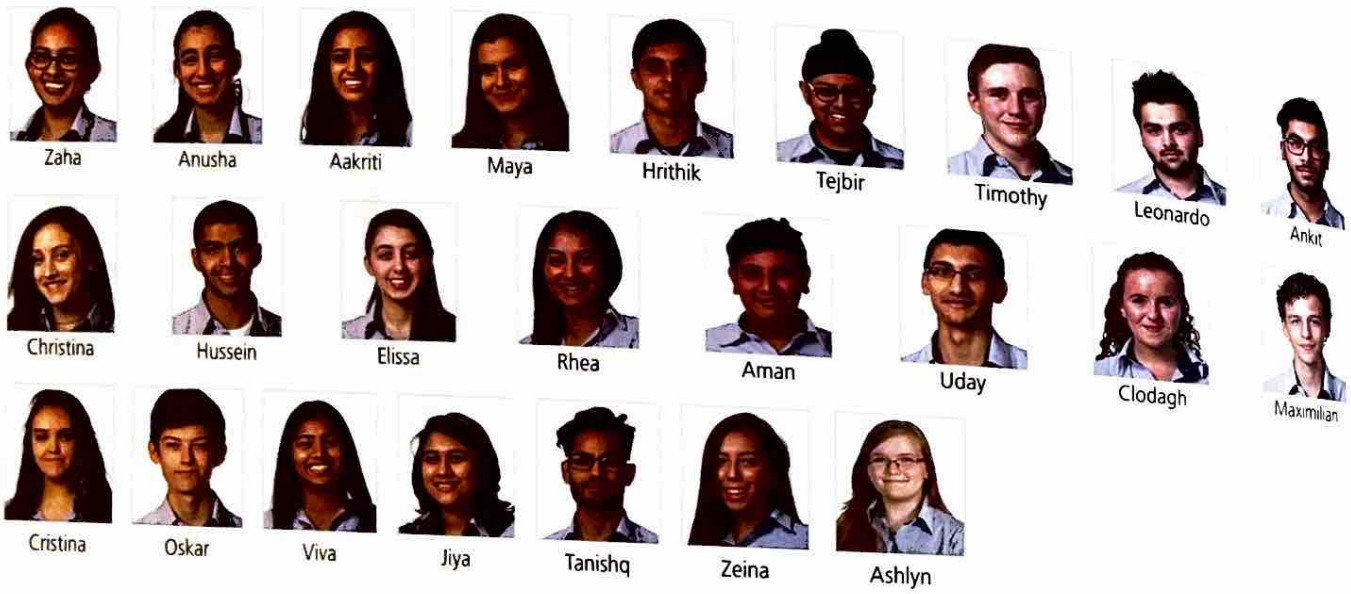
Personally speaking, this retreat was better than I could have ever imagined. In addition to learning such essential information relating to the core elements of the DP, we also got to spend so much time with our teachers and friends in the hotel and at "Wadi Adventure". This all made the retreat an extremely memorable experience. Joking around with friends in class is one thing, but hearing them call out to you when they fly down the zip-line while you white-water raft under them, is something truly unforgettable.

Marcello Pereira, 12E

Year 12 A

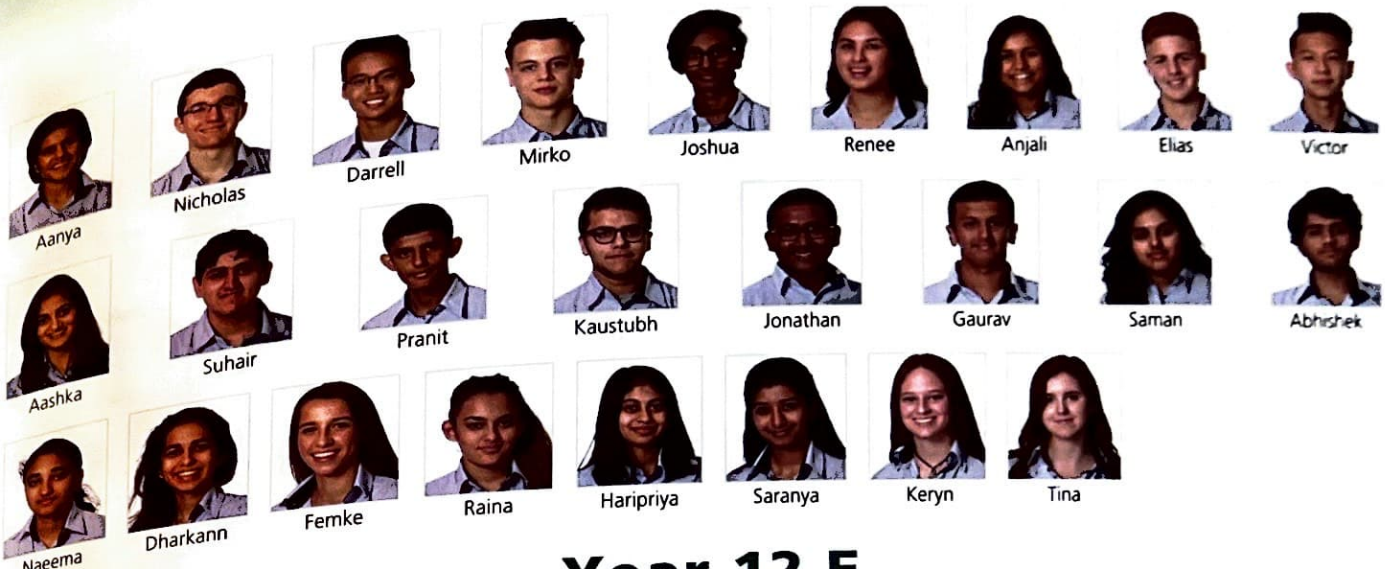


Year 12 B



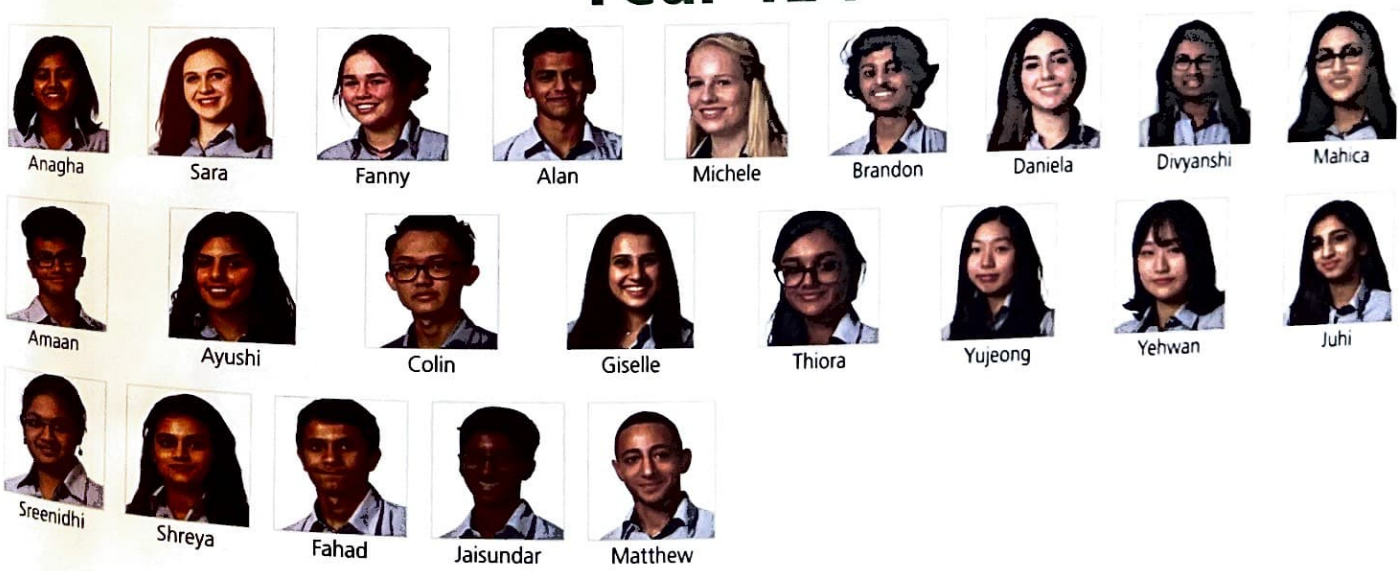
Year 12 C

Year 12 D

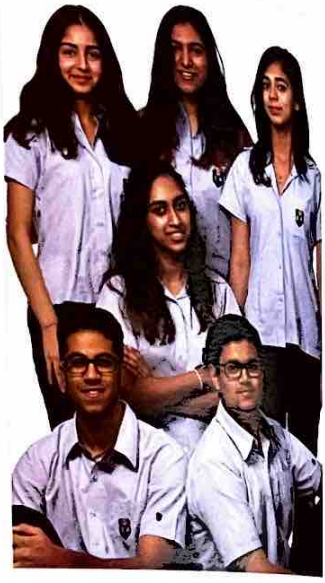


Year 12 E

Year 12 F

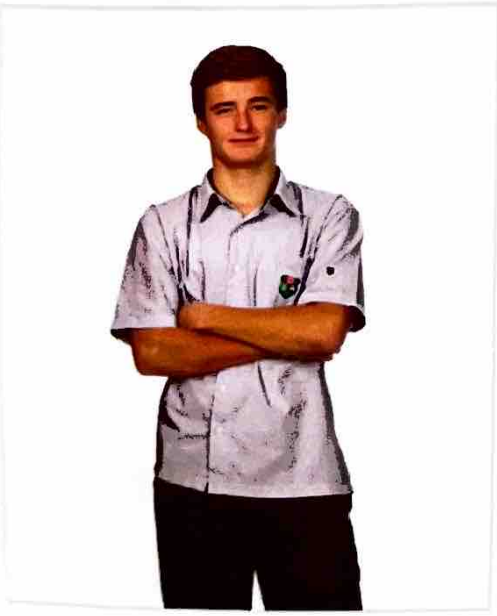


Year 12A

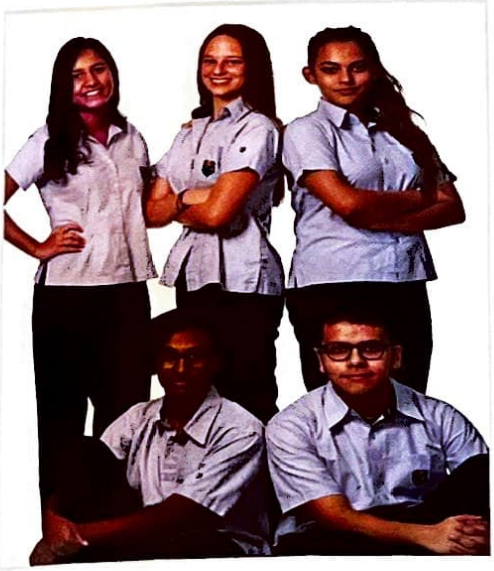


Year 12B

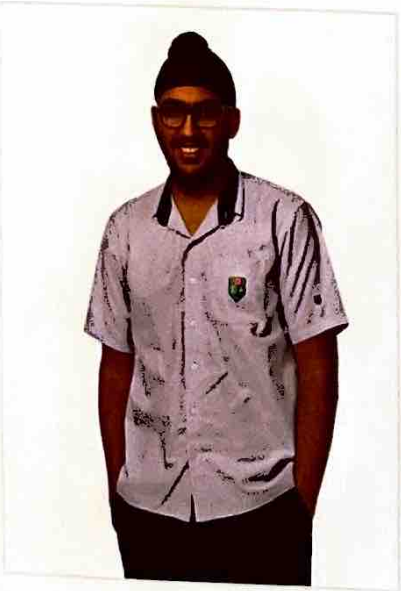
Year 12C



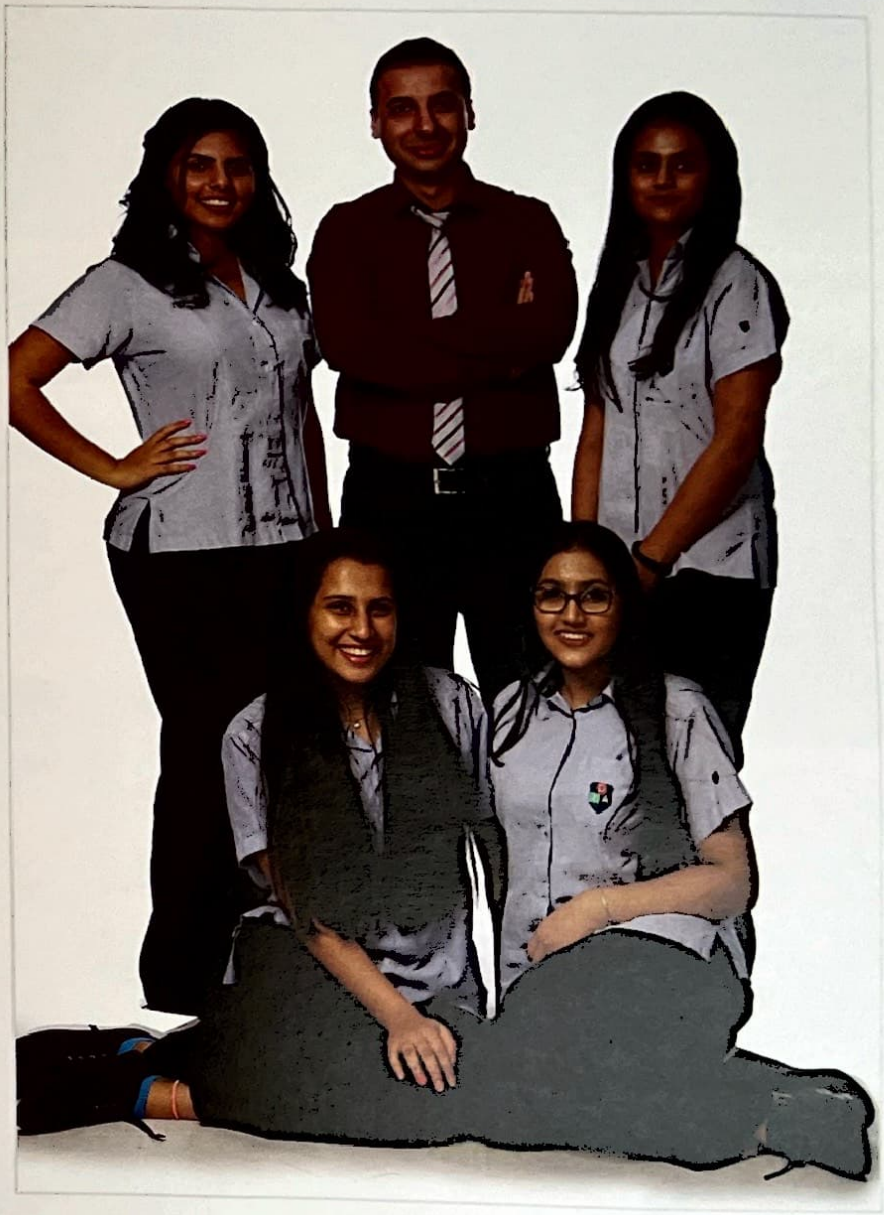
Year 12D



Year 12E



Year 12F



CAS Trip to Himalayas

DIA pupils make a difference to not only their own lives but the lives of others every day. When you consider the numerous clubs that are set up by pupils; the service to the school in regard to sport; the artistic, linguistic and poetic skills that are developed; the critical thinking during MUN or debating; and all of the other limitless activities that they are involved with - you realize that an article like this isn't even necessary. The impact of CAS resonates directly from the pupils themselves and it has been my pleasure to lead it.

Karl How (CAS coordinator)

CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service) is an integral component of the IB Diploma programme and rightly so. Here, academics are somewhat put aside and instead the focus is on the holistic development of pupils, whereby they drive their own progression in aspects of the life that they choose. Pupils challenge themselves physically and mentally with new skills and experiences and offer assistance through service, where they contemplate what it means to be a global citizen while providing support where there is authentic need. I am proud to say that at DIA we offer extensive opportunities for pupils to thrive in these areas both inside and outside of the school walls.

We go the extra mile each year by coordinating and chaperoning international project work trips for pupils to fully immerse themselves in areas of the world that need their help. Through this experience, they are confronted with contrasting cultures, languages, ways of life and means which no doubt open their eyes to the world around them. Over the last few years, pupils have ventured to Kenya, Cambodia, India, Uganda and this year is no different. DP1 pupils have explored the sights and culture of China in addition to volunteeing at a panda sanctuary and visiting an orphanage. In September they grasped a once in a lifetime chance to hike in the Himalayan foothills of Nepal and conducted vital restoration work at a local school as well as taught young students English. Here are a couple of our adventurers' comments regarding the expedition:

"A lifetime worth of experiences in just a week. The magnificence came from where you usually least expect it, and Nepal exemplifies that."

Aritra Gupta

"A greatly eye-opening experience which brought to light for many of us, the stark and harsh realities of poverty and living in an LEDC. Not only did it provide us, as students, an opportunity to give to the community, but also kindled a passion for further volunteer work for the betterment of humanity. Teaching and playing with the Nepalese children at the school not only provided a means to educate and have fun, but also taught us a deep lesson in humility, and to be thankful for our fortunate and blessed circumstances back home. Overall the trip was an absolute blast, and I would surely do it all again if I had the chance to!"

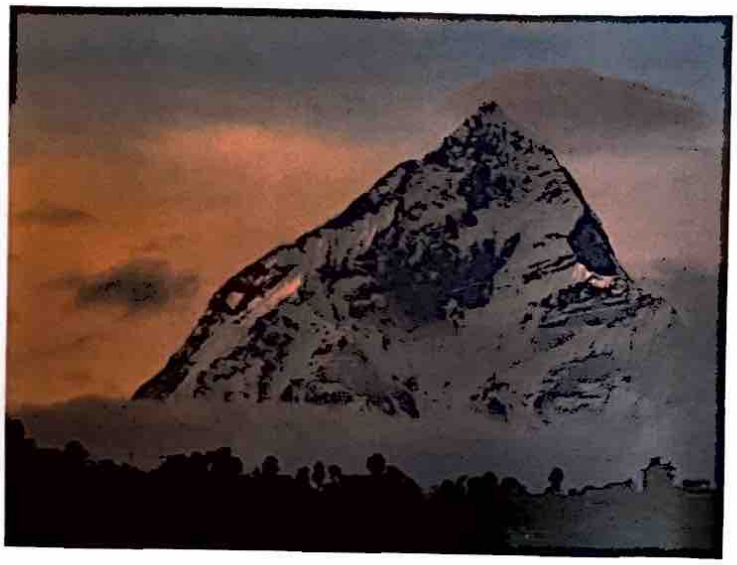
Ahsan Shamsee

"Signing up for the Nepal trip was the best decision I've ever made, it was a life changing experience that I will never forget."

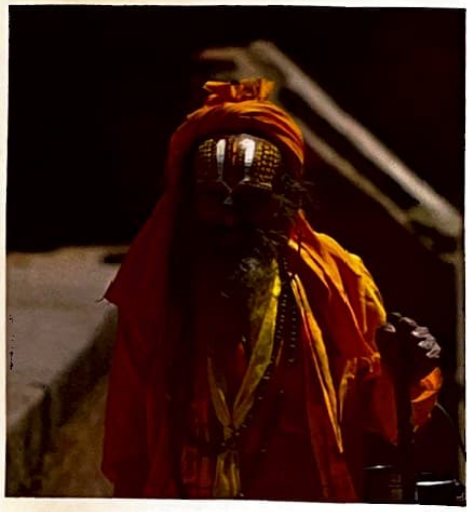
Noor El Hamammy

"Amazing how a change of environment can help you get to know the people you see every day!"

Renee de Geus



TREKKING IN THE HIMALAYAS



Yeti Airlines
9N-AIB

Overview of Year 13

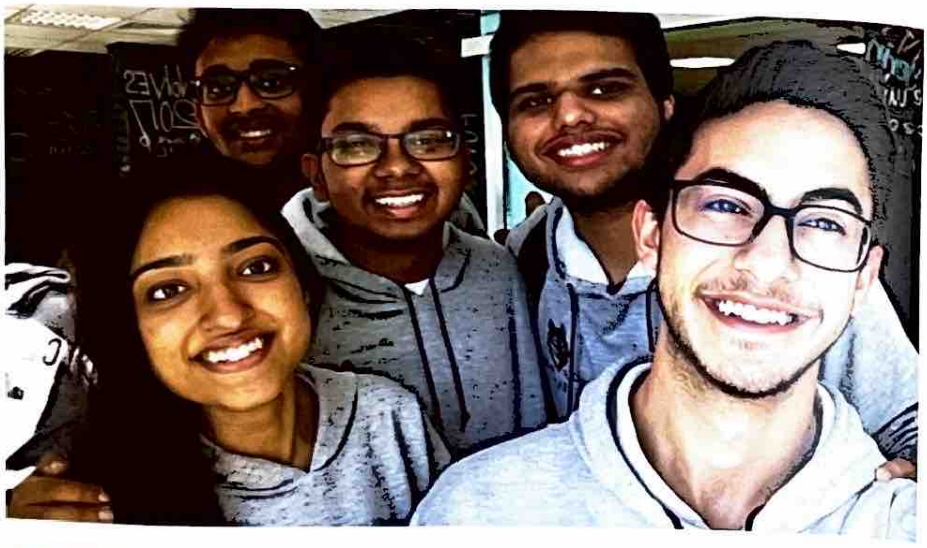
From the beginning of the year, the Year 13s have been given challenging goals to achieve with regard to their IBDP point totals. They have demonstrated a great deal of determination and grit in their continuous hard work. Many students have already received offers from universities, and many have been quite pleased at receiving offers from their dream schools.

One of the most thought-provoking exercises for the Year 13s this year was completing the university applications and writing the personal statements. However, the effort had paid off when the students received their university acceptance letters.

I would like to thank the leadership team for their efforts throughout the year. I have attended many of the prefect meetings and have seen the amount of work they have distributed amongst themselves. Lastly, I would like to thank Allen, Marta, Suhail and Sarah for the cooperation, leadership and dedication they have demonstrated throughout the year. Without their planning, directing, and organising, none of the events or projects would have been possible.

After having being Head of Year for this same cohort for the last three years, I have to say that it has been a real pleasure to be associated with this cohort of students. I wish each of them all the success in the world.

Jeff Luce
Head of Year 13



Year 13 A

Sanjay

Maria

Marwan

Pooja

Hana

Arjun

Isbah

Jehad

Smit

Mihir

Aditya

Suhail

Dakksh

Hana

Nick

Neha

Eda

Mehak

Samantha

Steve

Elizabeth

Rohan

Amogh

Naisha

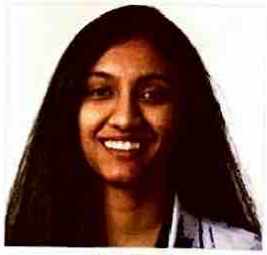
Year 13 B

Loay

Sarah

Karim

Mariyah


Arundhati

Nadya

Louis

Tess

Rynhardt

Usman

Omar

Hussein

Nishika

Karan

Manan

Marnix

Mayank

Sneha

Aniket

Bhavya

Renessa

Year 13 C

Syeda

Sameeksha

Davide

Ananya

Kiana

Hassan

Laila

Basiq

Ananya

Tarini

Zaynah

Johnny

Elvis

Abdullah

Chanjoo

Anlin

Jacob

Burhanuddin

Tim

Ashish

Ayush

Fotios

Omar Hafez

Year 13 D

Heba

Abrar

Mohammed

Malvi

Divij

Nabeel

Daniel

Matteo

Anusha

Daniel

Shashank

Natascha

Mia

Alma

Nidhi

Jaimini

Marta

Freya

Yerin

Lotta

Sridhar

Antoni

Shubhankar

Year 13 E

Anisha

Anushka

Jas

Rohan

Arunima

John

Kyle

Zarlasht

Kritika

Yana

Justus

Anna

Allen

Khadija

Aashay

Isabella

Sophie

Chakriya

Sarp

Mahir

Kunall

Bas

Year 13 F

Abdullah

Rand Al Ghussein

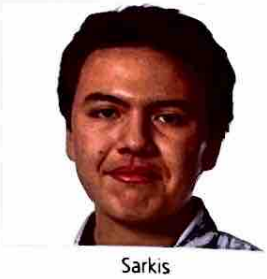
Anwar

Samarth

Tariq

Natasha

Vidhi


Sarkis

Dhruv

Shauraya

Konstantinos

Dhwani

Shifa

Ananyan

Chandni

Barakah

Nikita

Haya

Olivia

Waquar

Azizah

Roberta

Diploma Programme Graduation

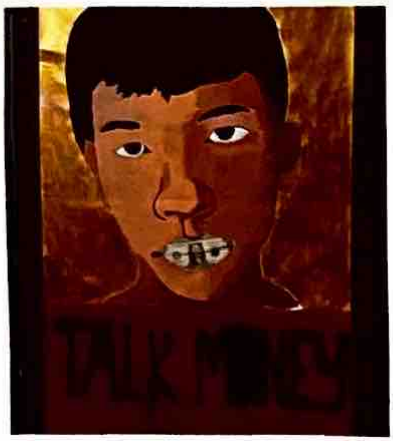
Diploma Programme Graduation

Class - 13C 2016-2017

Class - 13D 2016-2017

Diploma Programme Graduation

DP2 Art Exhibition



Google Science Fair

GOOGLE SCIENCE FAIR 2016

On December 31st, half an hour before 2016 was ushered in – Dubai was struck with a great tragedy.

It was at 11:30PM that night when the Address Hotel, Downtown Dubai, positioned opposite to the magnificent Burj Khalifa, erupted in flames. A fault in the building resulted in the burning up of 63 floors in a huge blaze. This event was worsened by the fact that there was 1 senior citizen killed and 16 seriously injured in this fire, just as they were waiting for an exciting fireworks display at the Burj Khalifa.

It was this news that inspired me to create a drone for the Google Science Fair 2016 that would help firefighters rapidly scan and evacuate buildings, by devoting their attention where it was needed the most.

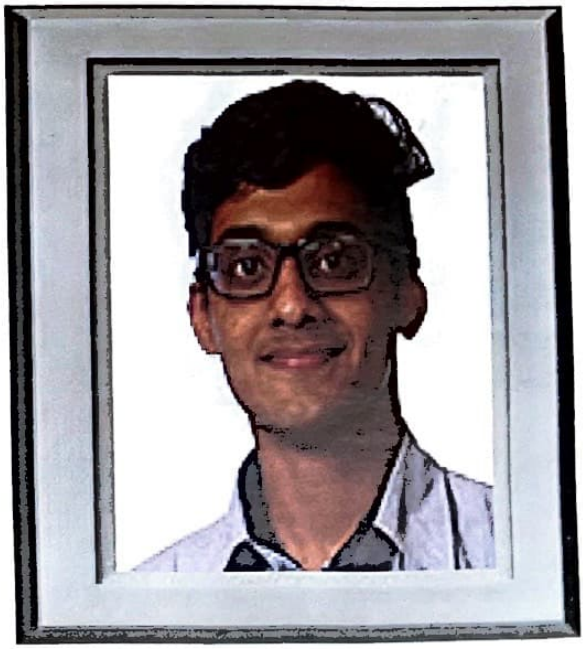
How would a firefighter know if there is a Senior citizen with a heart problem on floor 53, or an able-bodied man who would take care of himself on floor 20? The answer is, they don't. Firefighters evacuate buildings on a systematic floor by floor basis, which is highly inefficient. The firefighters' efforts are not focused where they are needed the most, resulting in a tragic loss of lives.

The Autonomous Drone I built was mounted with a single camera. I created a computer vision algorithm that allowed for data from this camera to be streamed to an external desktop for processing. The camera feed + algorithm would allow the drone to understand information in its surroundings so it could successfully navigate any apartment, which it had no prior knowledge about. The speciality of my drone, is due to its lack of sensors. It uses a single camera to navigate, like humans navigate primarily using their eyes. In the event of a fire, heat sensors cannot be relied on to provide accurate estimates of the surroundings. For example, if a heat seeking drone is about to bang into a wall, how will knowledge about the temperature of the area help in any way? For an accurate representation and efficient navigation, the programme had to literally understand whatever it was seeing through this camera.

An easy to explain component of my project was my algorithm that allowed 'Monocular Distance Estimation'. In a single picture, a programme cannot identify the depth of any of the objects. Although we can (because our eyes are trained to perceive depth), a single-lens normal camera cannot. In order to fix this problem, I looked to nature. Birds estimate depth with only one eye by making estimates over a continuous time interval, i.e, they realise that the further they are from something, the smaller things look. However as they approach an object, these things get bigger. I simply modelled this phenomena mathematically using an iPhone camera and 11,100 images.

I am proud to say that I was among 50 engineers selected by Google in an international science fair. This was easily the most competitive science fair in the world that involved thousands of students from 109 different countries. I was also the only one from the UAE, and among two finalists from the entire Middle East.

Dhruv Karthik, Year 13F



Water For Life

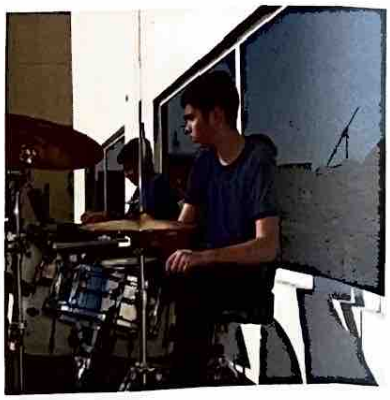
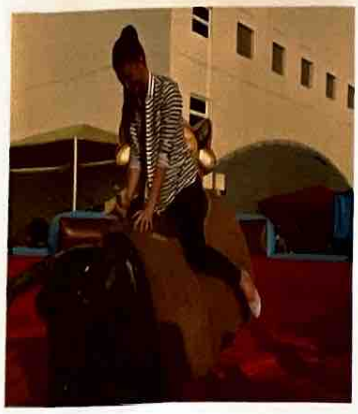
Water for Life – the Gift of DIA

The Water for Life (WFL) club is a non-profit charity that was founded by former DIA student, Edward Pollock, in 2009. His practices have since been conscientiously continued by the dedicated students of DIA. This year, for the first time ever, WFL worked exclusively with the Gift of Innoventures Education (GIVE) Foundation, Innoventures Education's very own charity, to contribute its funds towards helping GIVE tackle any water related issues around the world.

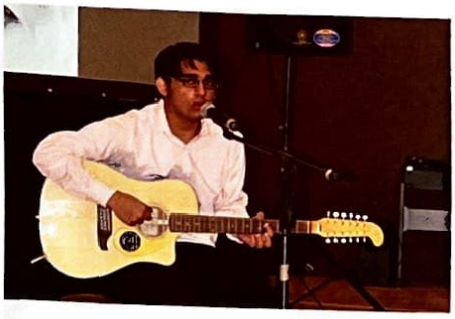
This year's WFL Carnival on the 1st of March, was the ninth annual carnival since 2009. It hosted a broad range of activities: from various rides like bouncy maze challenges, slides and games; to typical carnival snacks such as fries and cotton candy; along with a talented DJ from DIA itself, Victor He. The carnival also involved a large portion of DIA's student population, in the form of volunteers, who managed the rides and even created their own carnival stalls. Considering the event welcomed all students, parents, and friends of students at DIA, this year's attendance ended up amounting to over 250 people! The carnival alone raised just over AED 13,000 which, along with the money raised through other WFL events, will all be sent to GIVE to support its cause.

As the Head of Communications at WFL, I can confidently say that organising this carnival was one of the biggest challenges, yet one of the biggest rewards for us all this year. I am very thankful for the entire WFL Executive Team and all the volunteers who regularly helped the club and made this event possible. I look forward to what our club comes up with next.

Navya Gupta, 12 A

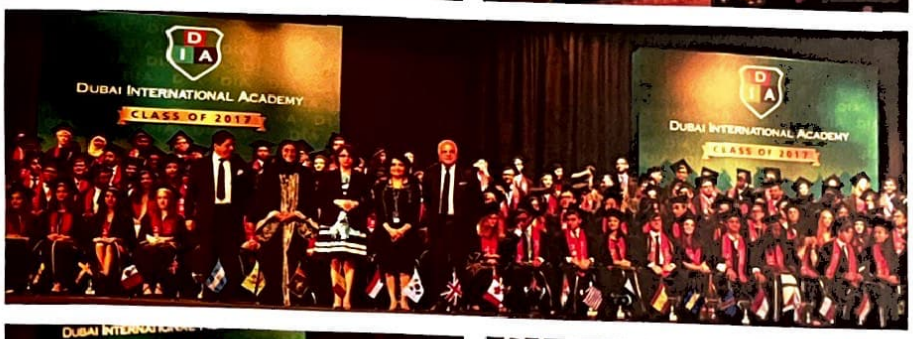



DP2 Farewell Ceremony



Diploma Programme Graduation

Diploma Programme Graduation



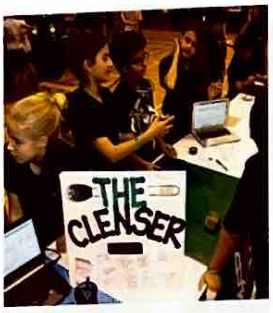
DI@TECH – A Glimpse into the Future of Technology

The annual DI@TECH exhibition on the 27th of April gave participating students the opportunity to demonstrate their interests and fascinations within the field of technology. Students from Years 7 to 12 held the focus of the event on their research and exhibits which they had worked on during their Product Design and Digital Design lessons in school. During the course of the day, several visitors, including students from other schools, arrived at Dubai International Academy to get a glimpse into the future of technology.

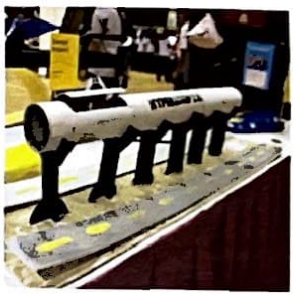
In order to accommodate interests in various fields within the technological industry, multiple inter-school competitions took place throughout the day, focusing on areas like video production, web design, and design technology. To help support the event, several sponsors such as Jumbo Electronics and Linksys provided organisers with competition prizes and multiple accolades to recognise outstanding students within their disciplines.

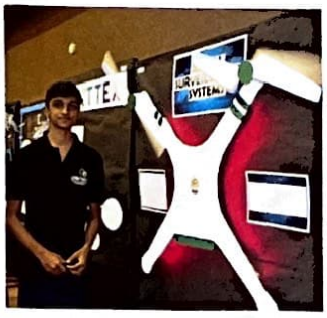
Personally speaking, I have been a part of many DI@TECH exhibitions over the years, and what I have always found unique about this event is the wide variety of exhibits and the sheer innovation involved. From "Google Glass" to "Renewable Energies for Tomorrow", DI@TECH truly is the future.

Marcello Pereira, 12 E



DI@TECH – A Glimpse into the Future of Technology





Eco Club

The Green Foot Forward

The Eco Club aims to make DIA a more eco-friendly environment for all students and teachers. We encourage students to decrease their general energy consumption and to reduce water wastage, while promoting the increase of biodiversity and a healthy lifestyle to ensure a more sustainable future.

As students, we have studied climate change, global warming and multiple other environmental issues that have not been taken seriously and have been ignored over the years. The Eco Club's aim is to emphasize the importance of these serious issues by urging students to enthusiastically take action towards our cause. The club allows us to stand as advocates for the conservation and protection of the environment.

Besides the members and volunteers in a group, events form the backbone of all successful foundations in social work. Hence, this year, our main focus has been on fundraising events, an integral element of the Eco Club, to raise awareness and provide financial resources for the club. We have achieved this by hosting an event that consisted of a bake sale, a pizza sale, a concert and the opportunity for students to adopt plants.

Being an active member of the Eco Club helps students realize the value of every small achievement, as no effort is too small to add to our goal of being the force needed to make a global difference to the environment. Any student interested in joining our initiative can become a member of Eco Club by simply signing up on the after school activity list.

Anoushka Sharma, Year 11

Interact Club

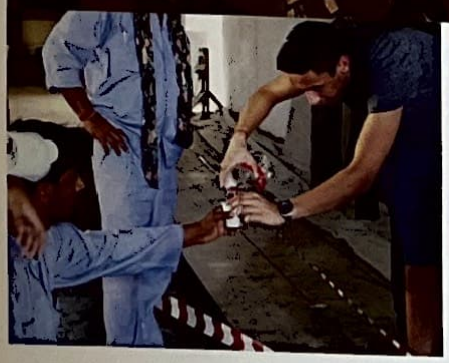
Changing the World, One Interaction at a Time

The DIA Interact Club has been running for five years, growing bigger and influencing a wider audience with every passing year. Under the Rotary Club worldwide, we are a service, volunteer and charity student group that aims towards improving the community around us via small- and large-scale projects. We have organized many notable events over the last academic year, which started off with the Breast Cancer Awareness Month where we sold pins and bands to symbolize our pledge towards solidarity with the brave people fighting breast cancer. The Interact Club has also often organized bake sales to ensure funds are being directed towards causes we support.

But more than raising funds, we aim to raise awareness. This is why the Interact Club is always at the front-lines every walk, run and awareness event in the UAE. We have participated in the Beat Diabetes Walkathon, the Walk for Education and the Pink Walkathon to name a few. Our volunteers make weekly visits to Senses, a residential day-care centre and school for students with special needs. Our events, media and service teams work hard every day in order to find potential events that our club of about 30 students can participate in every weekend. This year, I am extremely proud to say that we have had at least one event, if not more, in every month of the year. In the next few months, we hope to announce even more activities in the hopes of expanding our student community.

Every week, the core committee and the members meet to discuss new ideas and brainstorm events for the upcoming months. I have learnt invaluable lessons through my experiences as the President of the Interact Club. Firstly, it is very difficult to organize a club and have a meeting every week, so having a dependable team is extremely important, and something I consider myself extremely lucky to have by my side. There is no point in being in a club if you do not enjoy what you do, and each one of us at the Interact Club loves helping the world around us, and that is why we strive to keep the legacy of Interact Club going.

Aditya Rathi, 11 A
President of the Interact Club



International Evening

Around the World with 80 Countries

One of the most remarkable aspects of student life at DIA is the rich cultural diversity that is represented in the multinational student body and faculty, hailing from approximately 80 different countries. The spirit of multiculturalism and of international-mindedness is truly brought to the forefront of the school environment during the annual International Evening celebration, which took place this year on the 23rd of February.

For this year's event, I had the incredible and unique opportunity of hosting the International Evening show alongside my peers Marta Ortega, Sarah Abu Al Haj, and Suhail Mayor. The celebrations commenced at 17:00 with performances from a host of countries, including Australia, Ireland, India, China, and many more. While the performers from each country mesmerized us with their show-stopping talents and skills, the various stalls arranged around the field provided us with the opportunity to taste, experience and immerse ourselves in many different cultures of the world, just by taking a few steps across the DIA football field!

Overall, this celebration would not have been possible without the supportive and dedicated parents from DIA's Parents Association (PADIA), who put in a great deal of time and effort every year, and repeatedly make International Day such a memorable and enjoyable event for everyone.

Allen Lopez, 13 E

IBT Awards

The top achievers in the Middle East in each subject and grade are awarded the IBT Honour Certificate and Award for Excellence. We congratulate the students and the teachers for earning this honour. Their achievement is a reflection of the high standards of the school and highlights their ability to compare with the best students within the Middle East and Internationally.

S.No.	Name of student	Year	Subject
1	Zara Azmi	8	English
2	Ayaan Shaikh	8	English
3	Sneha Sahay	8	English
4	Johann Pinto	8	English
5	Anoushka Parmeshwaran	8	English
6	Hamza Zaidi	9	Mathematics
7	Arnav Jayaswal	4	Mathematics
8	Aditya Dave	5	Mathematics
9	Ismail Iqbal	4	Mathematics
10	Ishaan Dhadha	6	Mathematics
11	Jai Joshi	8	Mathematics
12	Louk Rijnders	6	Science

Students placed on the IBT Honour Roll for excellent achievement

Battle of the Houses

Diaspora

A Nostalgic Evening

The 11th annual DIASPORA alumni event was held at DIA on the 5th of January. During this event, around 70 alumni from previous graduating classes reunited and reminisced with their former school teachers and peers. The evening began with our school's CEO, Ms Poonam Bhojani, addressing the gathered alumni with a welcome speech. The speech was followed by musical performances from Ms Duarte and some of her Year 12 Music HL students. A slideshow of childhood pictures of previous graduating classes also ran continuously throughout the evening.

It was a pleasure to meet several former students again after previously seeing them in school during their occasional visits between college semesters. The most enjoyable part of the evening was hearing about their achievements following their graduations from DIA. We hope that the alumni enjoyed the get-together and we look forward to seeing this year's graduating class in the annual DIASPORA event next year.

Jeff Luce

Sarah Outen – Guest Speaker

"Sarah Outen's speech talk was extremely inspirational and I was able to apply her learnings to experiences in my own life. She is an inspiration to all of us." - Anjali Deepak Year 12

"She gave me motivation to face the demons in my life and come out on top." - Tyra Sabharwal Year 12

"Sarah Outen expanded my vision in the field of adventure" - Avineet Gouri Year 12

"It was an amazing adventure to hear about and it was interesting to hear the stories and experiences from someone who has travelled the world." - Aryan Shah Year 10

"Sarah Outen inspired me to follow my dreams despite the obstacles I may face." - Insiyah Haji Year 10

Journey of Hope

A 50-Kilometre-Long Journey of Hope

Over 300 cyclists gathered at the Al Qudra Cycling Track on the 26th of November to participate in a charity event organised by the Journey of Hope team. The aim of this charity organisation that runs in partnership with Red Crescent, is to provide money to those who require emergency life-saving surgeries and are unable to afford them. The event was open to all ages and consisted of 3 routes stretching 10, 20 and 50 kilometres long. I consider myself a cycling enthusiast so I chose to do the entire 50 km course, which only 11 others completed.

The event began at 2:30 in the afternoon. After filling my water-bottle to the brim, I set off on the lengthy 50 km course that I had estimated would take me three hours to complete. When the event started, I felt quite confident in my stamina. I found myself a group of people who maintained a similar pace to mine and enjoyed talking and riding with them for quite a distance. Because the group I was riding with kept me well-distracted from the distance I was covering, I found myself reaching the first water station in no time. I have ridden many distances on this track in the past, but none of those experiences were ever as rewarding as this one, because I have always ridden alone. Being in a group not only provided me with more motivation – it also made me feel like a part of something so much bigger.

As the kilometres went by, it felt like time slowed down and the fatigue kicked in. By the time I reached the third water station located at the 30 km mark, I was tiring out, yet I felt that I should push myself harder for the final leg of the event as I had already completed more than half the distance; so I endured. I am proud of myself for pushing onward, because the moment I completed the 50 km was a major accomplishment for me and though I was extremely tired, I was also ecstatic. I felt as if I had made a difference and raised tremendous awareness in the process. I would recommend an event like this for individuals of all ages, as it is a very rewarding method of charity and also raises awareness for a noble cause.

Kunall Vadgama, 13 E

Virgin Radio Visit

The Biggest Radio Station in the Middle East – Here, in Our School!

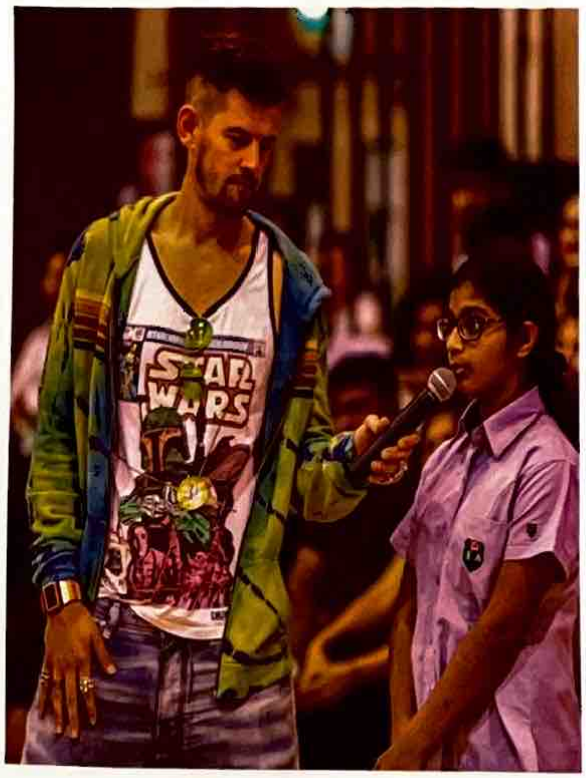
On the 11th of October, DIA was joined by one of the biggest radio stations in the Middle East: Virgin Radio. The Virgin Radio crew – consisting of Kris Fade, Pretti Malik, Big Rossi and Brent Black, along with a few others – arrived in a limo at DIA, where they were greeted by primary school students who cheered them on with pom-poms and the DIA mascot – the Wolf.

The PE hall was filled to the brim as excited students all rushed close to the stage as possible. The energy in the room was incredible. Many of the students bounced in their seats as they awaited the arrival of the Virgin Radio crew onstage. Once the doors opened and the crew appeared, most of the children started cheering and stood up from their seats to try and see them. The crew looked slightly overwhelmed by the enthusiasm in the students.

To commence the event, we had a few performances by the Year 12 and 13 students to showcase the talent in our school. First, we started with a band of Year 12 students who performed the song "Adventure of a Lifetime" by Coldplay. This was followed by 'The Symphonettes', a female acapella group in Year 12, who sang "Demons" by Imagine Dragons. After these performances, there was a flash mob organized by the prefects of our school and, to conclude the performances, a traditional Indian dance was performed by some Year 13 students.

After the performances, Kris Fade decided that the audience could have a question and answer session where the students could ask the crew anything they wanted to know. As a result, a wide variety of questions were asked, ranging from topics like RedFest to questions about the Virgin Radio show itself. The Virgin Radio crew also thought that it would be nice to get a few teachers up on the stage – as we all know, students love seeing their teachers being put on the spot! Watching the teachers was extremely entertaining as it consisted of the famous "Kung Fu Showdown" between Mrs Pam and Mr Jennings. To close the event, the Virgin Radio crew offered to sign autographs for students so that they could have mementos of this thrilling event that they were able to be a part of.

Mia Jovanovic, 13 D



Winter Souk

Winter Cheer!

As November and December roll around, almost every student who has been at DIA for at least the past year begins to think of the familiar words: Winter Souk. The Winter Souk is an annual event that brings a smile to everyone's faces even when it is just mentioned. It embodies everything we love about winter, and the spirit of our school: a sense of togetherness, giving and overall joy. Held on the 24th of November this year, the whole day was given an added wintery feel by PADIA through the quaint decorations of tinsel, snowflakes and Christmas trees around the school, along with the soothing carols playing throughout the day.

There were approximately 50 stalls set up in the school quadrangle and each one was stocked with goodies that were either beautiful or delicious or both. Many of the stalls were set up by parents of DIA students, and I could see the younger children scurrying around making early Christmas present purchases. This year, I had a different perspective of the Winter Souk because I was working on a stall of my own, as part of the Water for Life club. We sold home-baked goods such as cupcakes, cakes and cookies, along with pizza and soft drinks as well.

This wonderful event made me realize the power shared by the DIA community – when we come together for the common cause of the good and joy of others, we have the ability to create something truly unforgettable and magical.

Tessa Thomas, 12 A

MESSAGE FROM THE **DIRECTOR OF SPORT AND ACTIVITIES**

It is this time of the year that requires one closing sprint for the academic finals. Revision of the skills and knowledge learned. Projects. Deadlines. Papers. Taking last exams. The busy end of a school year.

It is this time of the year that gives the one moment when we can pause and look back. Reflection on the experiences and lessons gained. Acknowledgements. Gratitude. Contemplation. Setting new aspirations. The fulfilling completion of an eventful year.

It is this time of the year when I truly understand the wise words "an oak tree is a daily reminder that great things often have small beginnings."

I still recall vividly the moment long ago when our young students tried out for first time cubs athletes. Many semesters, training sessions, competitions and victories later, I can proudly say that our Sports Community truly represents the spirit of its mascot – the Wolf.

The wolf is a symbol of guardianship, ritual, loyalty, and spirit. The power of the wolf brings forth instinct, intelligence and awareness of the importance of community. The wolf is a strong and wise animal. One that understands the order of things and the balance of harmony and discipline. Wolves have a highly organised social structure enabling them to have true cooperation. Wolves are known to develop close relationships and strong social bonds and often demonstrate deep affection for their family. On the other side, wolves have remarkable powers of endurance and are known to follow their target all day and night if necessary.

Looking back at our last 11 years and in principally the last 10 months together, I feel strong pride to be part of the DIA pack. It has been a very important and very successful year for our Sports community and I would like to extend my deep thanks to each and every one of our wolves for the hard work, the commitment, the passion and the support!

One of the most important achievements of the DIA PE and Sports Programme is its remarkable evolution from the formality of being an educational institution, while providing exemplary academic PE programme to a vibrant community engaging all of its members (students, parents and staff) in meaningful learning experiences both related to Sport and Life.

The current academic year 2016-2017 has been in many ways the most outstanding, enriching and vigorous year for DIA Wolves, leaving a challenge for the Wolves of years to come.

Over 680 athletes participated in 16 sports and 54 teams covering the age groups U12, U14, U16 and U19 boys and girls. Many teams included a developmental squad in which each member had the opportunity to learn the sport they love.

Our students had the opportunity to participate and gain knowledge and skills about a wide range of sports: Swimming, Cricket, Aquathon, Triathlon, Volleyball, Netball, Cross Country, Athletics (Track and Field), Basketball, Football, Cricket, Badminton, Tennis, Chess, Softball, and Golf.

At the UAE Teens Sports and Fitness Award and event under the patronage of Dr. Abdulla Al Karam, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Director General of the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA), DIA was the runner-up at the Best Youth Developmental Pathway category, and a finalist to best Sports School, which is a clear indicator of our success.

I would not able to go into detail and mention all the teams and individual results on National and International level from the year as space won't be enough, but I can assure you this was the most successful sports year for Dubai International Academy.

Contemplating all of the above achievements, I encourage you, dear students, to take a moment to reflect and cherish your hard work and valuable experiences from this year. I also urge you to dare to set new goals and strive for your aspirations with wolves' spirit and perseverance as "you earn your trophies at practice, you just pick them up at competitions".

My personal pledge is to continue to live and share with you wholeheartedly my passion for Sports - every lesson, every game, and every day!

With the below story I would like to wish you an active, healthy and awe-inspiring summer ahead and I am looking forward to our next Sports season!

Go Wolves!

An old Cherokee is teaching his grandson about life. "A fight is going on inside me" he said to the boy.

"It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One is negative – he is anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego." He continued, "The other is good – he is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and trust. The same fight is going on inside you – and inside every other person, too."

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win?"

The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed."

Yours in Sport,

Mihail Kouzev

Director of Sport and Activity

Competitive Sports

DIA Wolves Howl - Badminton

U12 Girls
Zara Augustine
April Sondberg-Lejre
Mariana Vale
Keya Menezes

U12 Boys
Arnav Khanna
Darshan Pagarani
Tim Beylier
Ahmed Waqay

U14 Girls
Avneet Bindra
Anushka Parmeshwaran
Patrycja Kijahska
Anusha Shah

U14 Boys
Hamza Zaidi
Achyuth Nishant
Aarav Jhaveri
Yugadhikrit Chauhan
Seung-hoo Jung

U16 Girls
Jiya Rughwani
Ananya Gupta
Paavnee Misra
Sanjita Guha

U16 Boys
Aryan Totawat
Sumedh Shrinath
Shalabh Sivanand
Adam Hafez
Vishal Srikanth

U18 Girls
Aashka Jhaveri
Mehek Vora
Nuha Manzoor
Juhi Parmar

U18 Boys
Uday Jalan
Jacob Tullberg
Fotios Vellios
Muhammad Anwar
Bas Van der Bjil

DIA Wolves Howl - Swimming Team

U12 Girls
Sophia Dumont
Louisa Pohl
Thea Nielsen
Jae Won Shin
Leen Aljayyusi
Frederike Sattler
Zara Augustine

U12 Boys
Jure Mazej
Alex de Villeneuve
Dhruv Reddy
Lorenzo Ironi
Isac Tullberg
Yaquin Bekkali
Thomas Reyes
Jad Yutesler

U14 Girls
Antonia Pohl
Leya Awad
Alexa Awad
Kyra Ortner
Patrycja Kijanska
Sophia Furey
Frances Perez
Isha Reddy
Annabella Cuenca
Shaimaa El Raddaf
Paavnee Misra
Ludwika Guizis

U14 Boys
Sam Van Der Stroom
Andrea Saxod
Theo Abramo
Aleks Barsamyan
Jay Pangarkar
Shalabh Shivanand
Alessandro Grenci
Leo Charmas
Saro Deratamain
Elliot Abramo
Michael Anthony Brown

U16 Girls
Candic Saxod
Shreya Walia
Aarya Lakshminaryanan
Ashali Kataria
Nour Abdallah
Sierra Christodoulou
Avaani Singh
Vilma Delden
Paula Castillero
Iza Florjanic
Keryn Thompson
Tayla Thompson
Klara Sananikone
Zala Mazej

DIA Wolves Howl - Swimming Team

U16 Boys
Dennis de Joode
Varun Kabra
Aryan Shah
Luca Torricelli
Aaron Lopez
Thomas Freundt
Neel Joshi
Ronin Tharoor
U18 Girls
Keryn Thompson
Tayla Thompson
Paulomi Sengupta
Tina Zupancic
Mia Jovanovic
Heba Abdulla
Juhi Parmar
Natasha Carpenter-Frank
Yehwan Park
Shivaani Ayyar
U18 Boys
Parsa Mohriesfahani
Nicholas Charamis
Daniel Giessman
Tim Spaans
Matthias Van Bladel
Jacob Tullberg
Usmaan Khan

DIA Wolves Howl - Athletics Team

U12
Leena Mezqueldi
Joelle Sidhom
Rossa Thomas
Mariana Vale
Diya Gracias
Louisa Pohl
Lucia Dao Gutierres Ramos
Mahrukh Masroor
Jessica Salomons
Adria Anglada
Umar Ingalls
Vivan Desai
Aoun Okkeh
Christopher Patlle Smith
Juan Pierre de Villiers
Jure Mazej
Diego De Vita
Yassin Ahmed Zaki

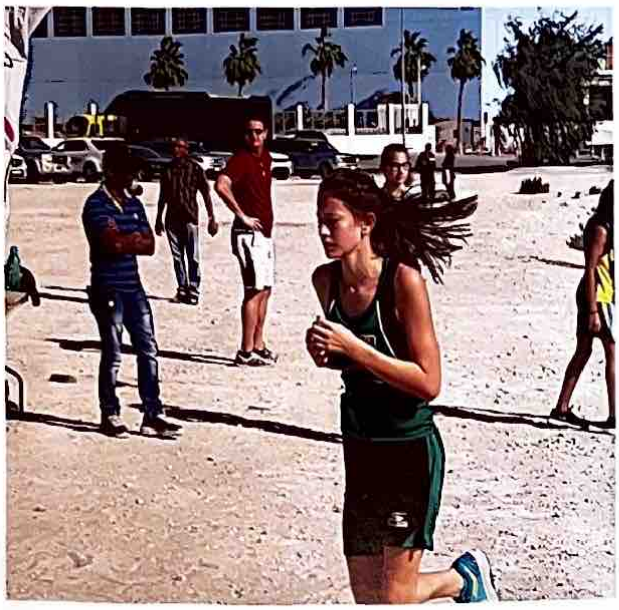
U14
Jiya Deepak
Minea Kotakorpi
Simran Bajaj
Frida Krabbe
Mantika Harish
Kyra Ortner
Maya Hashme
Nicole Farah
Sneha Sahay
Youssef Ahmed Zoheir
Laith Abu Khader
Hassaan Kashif
Ryun Chu
Antonio Pitteri
Jack Frances
Kaushik Nanda
Alessandro Grenci
Ryan de Villiers
Mehmet Ozel
Ansh Prasad
Seung-Hoo Jung
Aryan Malhotra
Johann Pinto

U16
Yara Bengdara
Henna Sidhu
Iza Florjanic
Sara Van der Bijl
Julie Azba
Insiyah Haji
Sofia Diaz
Isabelle De Groot
Zala Mazej
Marie Oldeman
Isabella Schonfeldt
Jenni Karppinen
Livia Oberholzer
Leila Cherkaoui
Vilma Delden
Han Doan

Humza Salam
Ziyad Jallad
Amaan Naqvi
Talal Mutawalli
Janishq Munge
Thomas Freundt
Marco Meyer
Shiven Taneja
Aaron Lopez
Emil Lund
Nadim Khairallah
U18
Tina Zupancic
Femke Schreuder
Zoe Zietsman-Brits
Andjela Oskorus
Mia Jovanovic

Hana Iro
Renessa Tahilramani
Jaimini Mehta
Hussein Khedr
Omar Khattab
Allen Lopez
Matthew Akram
Kostantinos Kossenas
Brandon Dcosta
Karan Kumar
Jonathan Tegisher
Timothy Carpenter-Frank
Parsa Mohriesfahani
Johannes Cornelius Nel
Karim Ali
Nicholas Charamis
Nikhil D'mello

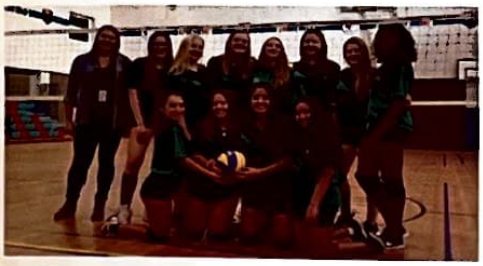
DIA Wolves Howl - Cross Country Team



U12
Aaron Lopez
Adam Chomic
Alessandro Grenci
Alicia Miret
Andrea Saxod
Anthony Brown
Antonio Pitteri
Bolke Rijnders
Brandon D'Costa
Hussein Dawood
Isac Tullberg
Jack Francis
Jacob Tullberg
Johann Pinto
Kyra Ortner
Leya Awad
Luca Torricelli
Marie Oldeman
Mathilde Anne Oldeman
Matteo Pitteri
Maxime Guineau
Rhea Udayasankar
Ryan Chu
Sehar Salman
Sofia Diaz
Theo Abramo
Thomas Freundt
Varun Kabra
Victor Fadou
Zaid Jundi

U14
Ludwika Guizis

DIA Wolves Howl - Volleyball Teams



U14 Boys Volleyball
Ashja Syed
Adam Chomic
Johaan Pinto
Rishi Adit Shah
Dylan Clarke
Allessandro Grenci
Ryun Chu
Mehmet Ozel
Zaid Jundi
Eliot Abramo
Maxime Gueneau
Yuchan Shin
Seung Hoo
Hamza Zaidi
Lorenzo Lironi

U16 Girls Volleyball
Aaya Kamkar
Alexandra Bailey
Ayra Thomas
Carolina Vale
Famke Boenk
Gillian Gracias
Jyia Rughwany
Lilith Mayer
Manon Pierre
Mashal Iqbal
Natasha Chaudhry
Paavnee Misra
Rida Fatima
Sarah Qawasmeh
Sonja Giesemann
Sophia Golden
Yara Bengdara

U16 Boys Volleyball
Ziyad Jallad
Adam Hafez
Amaan Naqvi
Dymitr Mazurkiewicz
Shiven Taneja
Janishq Munge
Albert Schultz
Humza Salman
Dhiren Kewalramani
Mustafa Mohammad
Wael Gholmieh
Karim Al Rayyis

U18 Girls Volleyball
Tyra Sabharwal
Basia Fourie
Mia Jovanovic
Hana Irro
Clodagh Keegan
Meaghan O'Callaghan
Tina Zupancic
Roberta Torricelli
Sofia Castro
Tess Elleswijk
Chandni Mehta
Renee de Geus

U18 Boys Volleyball
Viktor Faudou
Guy Manchip
Jonathan Tegischer
Julian Kipp
Timmy Carpenter - Frank
Mathias van Bladel
Michal Kijanski
Shiven Taneja

DIA Wolves Howl - Football Teams

U12 Girls Football
Lucia Dao Gutierrez
Rossa Thomas
Louisa Pohl
Yasmina Youssef
Mahrukh Masroor
Delyar Khakpour
Robyn De Geus
Lucia Alvarez
Mariana Vale
Jessica Salomons
Nikoline Moller
Leena Mezqueldi
Sameekshaa Prabhu
Jamie Simpson
Diya Gracias

U12 Boys Football
Adria Anglada
Juan- Pierre De Villiers
Qais Virji
Phillip Durham
Ibrahim Khemakhem
Vivaan Desai
Arthur Schultz
Kaleo Kolb
Dev Gulati
Neil Sangani
Yaquin Bekkali
Jens Boekel
Adrian Castillero
Aarav Shah

U14 Girls Football
Alexa Awad
Cornelia Broman
Danique Buijs
Ella Tague
Farah Wahab
Frida Krabbe
Hind Younus
Iida Ylikangas
Jentl Hanemaayer
Jiya Deepak
Victoria Broman
Leila Makar
Leya Awad
Nicole Farah
Tindra Feast

U14 Boys Football
Laith Abu Khader
Aly Hamzawy
Calvin D'Mello
Hamza Siddiqui
Jaden Riachi
Raffy Khan
Hassan Khashif
Gustav Eenberg
Jack Francis
Mehmet Ozel
Eemil Hanjo
Maxime Gueneau
Siddarth Malhotra
Yugadhikrit Chauhan

Danil Ghosh
Werner Suokas
Abd Al Rahman Mohamed
Zeid Khayyat

U16 Girls Football
Emily Tague
Jenni Karppinen
Livia Oberholzer
Leila Cherkaoui
Kaley Black
Ariba Khan
Dix Stellema
Sarah Khattab
Shamma Younus
Maybelle Daniels
Tamara Khudair
Yara Bengdara
Henna Sidhu
Isabelle de Groot
Sara van der Bijl
Vidhi Sajnani
Layla El-Garem

U16 Boys Football
Nichlas El Nayal
Ziyad Jallad
Vasilis Petevis
Marco Reyes Castellano
Kaveesh Mehta
Albert Schultz
Victor Eenberg
Joshua De Souza
KarimAl Rayyis
Jakob Al Medanat
Bolke Rijnders
Karim Magdi El Hammamy
Joshua Ingles
Pranav Jain
Emil Lund
Youssef Harfoush
Ebrahim Shaikh
Daniel McLernon
Yarden Kumar
Arik Borawake
Mazen Omar
Omar Abdallah
Mark Kuznetsov
Vasilis Petevis
Youssef Harfoush

U18 Girls Football
Ramia Shahzad
Meaghan O' Callaghan
Raina Shahzad
Tasmiyah Alli
Myriam Bek
Tess Elleswijk
Anjali Deepak
Caterina Penza
Andjela Oskorus
Zaha Akbar
Aashka Jhaveri
Renee De Geus
Clodagh Keegan
Femke Schreuders
Tessa Thomas
Chandni Mehta
Azizah Al Timimi
Sofia Lindberg

U18 Boys Football
Matteo Coda
Mirko Coda
Muhammad Anwar
Omar Hafez
Hussein Khedr
Bas van der bijl
Mahan Ebrahimi
Nabeel Chauhan
Goffredo Orlandi Contucci
Allen Lopez
Victor He
Fahad Tajiki
Leo Saied-Ahmad
Daniele Ravenna
Mahir Shajin
Matthew Akram
Chanjoo Park

DIA Wolves Howl - Basketball Teams

U12 Girls Basketball
Ariyana Soleimani
Emma Nikoline Moller
Mishti Odrani
Jessica Salomons
Louisa Pohl
Elli Mia Tolland
Meline Siggen
Robyn de Geus
Leena Mezqueldi
Rossa Thomas
Diya Gracias
Delyar Khakpour

U12 Boys Basketball
Arav Borawake
Lorenzo Ironi
Juan - Pierre de Villiers
Dhruv Reddy
Neff Bash
Ryan Neem
Vivaan Desai
George Azar
Xabier Usabiaga
Neil Sangani
Harsha Bharadwaj
Adrian Castillero
Adria Anglada
Matej Alexandar Milosavljevic
Alexander Davies
Umar Ingalis

U14 Girls Basketball
Minea Kotakorpi
Maya Hashme
Tindra Feast
Elsa Braidy
Michelle Rausch
Simran Bajaj
Mantika Harish
Isha Reddy
Arya Lalvani
Patrycja Kijanska
Nicole Farah
Yasmin Morcy
Miesha Singh
Nayah Karam
Valeria Fassone
Leya Awad
Ayyan Sheikh
Anoushka Parmeshwaran

U14 Boys Basketball
Ira Magallanes
Dakshit Raj
Nout Stellema
Tamim Abedraouh
Sulaman Qadir
Seung-hoo Jung
Samuel Korpinen
Brandon wojtowicz
Khrish Kewalramani
Ryan Tyler Fenton

Daniel Alves
Wassim El Kalash
Shady El Raddaf
Abhay Katoch
Hamza Zaidi
Youness Khemakhem
Shiver Bajaj
Shaan Diwan
Ashja Syed

U16 Girls Basketball
Amira Khoda
Rida Fatima
Amaal Shaikh
Ayman Ahsan
Eman Paracha
Maira Hardiansyah
Ananya Mirchandani
Habiba El-Ezaby
Havana Thompson
Sivalika Bagrodia
Han Doan

U16 Boys Basketball
Nathan Simoni
Justin leon
Sahil Raina
Prajay Suresh
Batu Saysel
Adarsh Govindan
Carlos Castro
Adheesh Kataria
Arnav Popat
Mohamed Ismail
Mikhail Reilly
Akhil Sharma
Shashwat Sahay
Nicolas El Nayal
Ahmed Elbehiry
Armaan Dhir

U16 Girls Basketball
Hana Irro
Mia Jovanovic
Shreya Sreeram
Jaimini Mehta
Sara Keppler
Basia Fourie
Viva Noronha
Havana Thompson
Ananya Mirchindani
Zahra Ben Gdara

U18 Boys Basketball
Justus Kempf
Uday jalan
Oskar Nielsen
Ethan watt
Fotios vellios
Avineet gouri
Ethan watt
Tanishq Sughnani
Mahan elbrahami
Ahsan shamsee

DIA Wolves Howl - Cricket Teams

U14 cricket
Arnav Bulani
Rohit Ramaswamy
Karan Pradeep
Abhay Katoch
Manan Shah
Shiven Bajaj
Rohan Katyal
Ashirwad Modi
Harsha Bhardwaj
Ahmed Waqas

U16 JV cricket
Yash Bulani
Pranay Ganjoo
Kaveesh Mehta
Deep Bhatia
Owais Moti
Rohan Batra
Joshua Dsouza
Adheesh Kataria
Mikhail Reilly
Ronit Kothari
Ayush Walia

U18 Varsity cricket
Saud Barkur
Shauraya Katoch
Hrithik Bhatia
Abdulrehman Murad
Akbar Khan
Gaurav Pradhan
Harshit Raj
Elias Farah
Pranit Narayanaswamy
Jaisundar Vishwanathan
Johannes Nel
Ayush Walia
Pranay Ganjoo
Manan Shah
Deep Bhatia

DIA Wolves Howl - Netball Teams

U12 Netball
Robyn De Geus
Louisa Pohl
Tanuvi Kauffmann
Zara Hashme
Diya Gracias
Raima Kodnani
Dana Khedr
Kate Pereira
Leena Mezqueldi
Emma Nikoline Moller
Rossa Thomas
Aoife Shannon
Jessica Solomons
Paula-Zoe Helmerichs
Delyar Khakpour
Ariyana Soleimani
Zara Augustine
Jamie Simpson
Lucia Alvarez Chamarro
U14 Netball
Mantika Harish
Maya Hashme
Minea Kotakorpi
Tindra Feast
Danique Buijs
Alissa Oberholzer
Simran Bajaj
Isha Reddy
Miesha Singh
Patrycja Kijanska
Anushka Shah
Ria Chawla
U16 Netball
Gaia Giovannetti
Venika Pagarani
Ishika Manglik
Ariba Khan
Shefa Barkur
Tyla Mac Gregor
Nandini Garg
Kavyaa Modak
U18 Netball
Shivani Ayaar
Elzaan Steyn
Anna Koenings
Hana Buabbas
Viva Norhona
Tess Ellsewijk
Alyssa Noorali

DIA Wolves Howl - Tennis Teams

U12 Girls Tennis
Lucia Dao
Matilda Oldema
Veronica Seth
Melin Siggen
Zara Hashme
Mya Hashme

U12 Boys Tennis
Thomas Reyes
Ansh Prasad
Elliot Abramo
Seweryn Mazurkiuwiecz

U14 Girls Tennis
Anushka Shah
Zara Hashme
Mya Hashme
Shriangi Gupta
Elsa Brady
U14 Boys Tennis
Hamza Zaidi
Achyuth Nishant
Yohan Nanda
Thomas Reyes

U16 Girls Tennis
Marie Oldeman
Clara Schulle
Kasvi Bhatia
Ananya Gupta
Diya Srinivasan
Anushka Shah
Paavnee Misra

U16 Boys Tennis
Siddarth Raghunathan
Kshitij Gupta
Mikhail Reilly
Aley Raafat
Rishi Abichandani
Vishal Srikanth
Suhas Rayapudi

U18 Boys Tennis
Siddarth Raghunathan
Kshitij Gupta
Mikhail Reilly
Rishi Abichandani
Vishal Srikanth

U18 Girls Tennis
Clara Schulle
Marie Oldeman
Kasvi Bhatia
Diya Srinivasan

DIA Wolves Howl - Table Tennis Teams

U12 Table Tennis
Neil Sangani
Jens Boekeo
Adrian Castillero Garcia
Aarav Shah
U14 Table Tennis
Achyuth Nishant
Manan Shan
Ansh Prasad
Arnav Khanna

U16 Table Tennis
Ishan Zuaim
Hamza Zaidi
Armaan Malhotra
Adheesh Kataria
U18 Table Tennis
Aman Jalan
Sumedh Shrinath
Jay Bhakta
Kieran Bhakta

DIA Wolves Howl - Chess Teams

Chess	
Shubadeep Sarkar	Mark Kuznetsov
Viachaslau Berasneu	Gabriel Lourerio
Thijs Shipper	Jonseong Hwang
Shreyas Raman	Shashwat Sahay

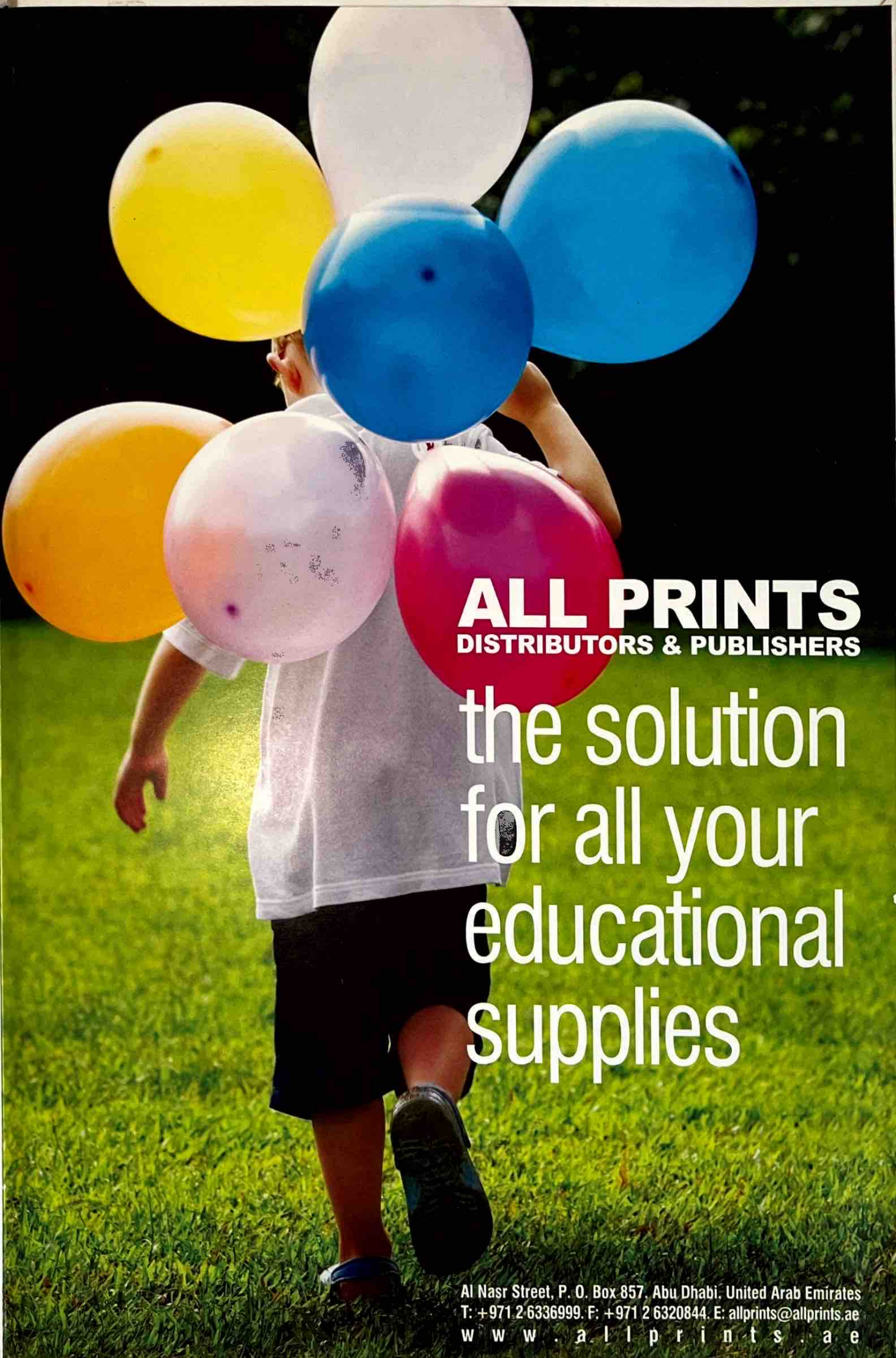
Olympic Champion

DIA students had the privilege and hounour to meet the Olympic Champion from Rio 2016 Sang Young Park and the Olympic Champion from London 2012 Rubén Dario Limardo Gascón and visited DIA. The Champions shared their great and inspiring stories about their life, the commitment and belief in their abilities to be able to win the gold medals.

The students truly enjoyed this inspiration and life changing story and they all had the chance to speak with them and ask them questions.

Thank you Snag Young Park and Rubén Dario Limardo Gascón for sharing your story with our students.

You have inspired them for life!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